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Vol. 5, no. 1
January 1963

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

"THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST SALUTE YOU"

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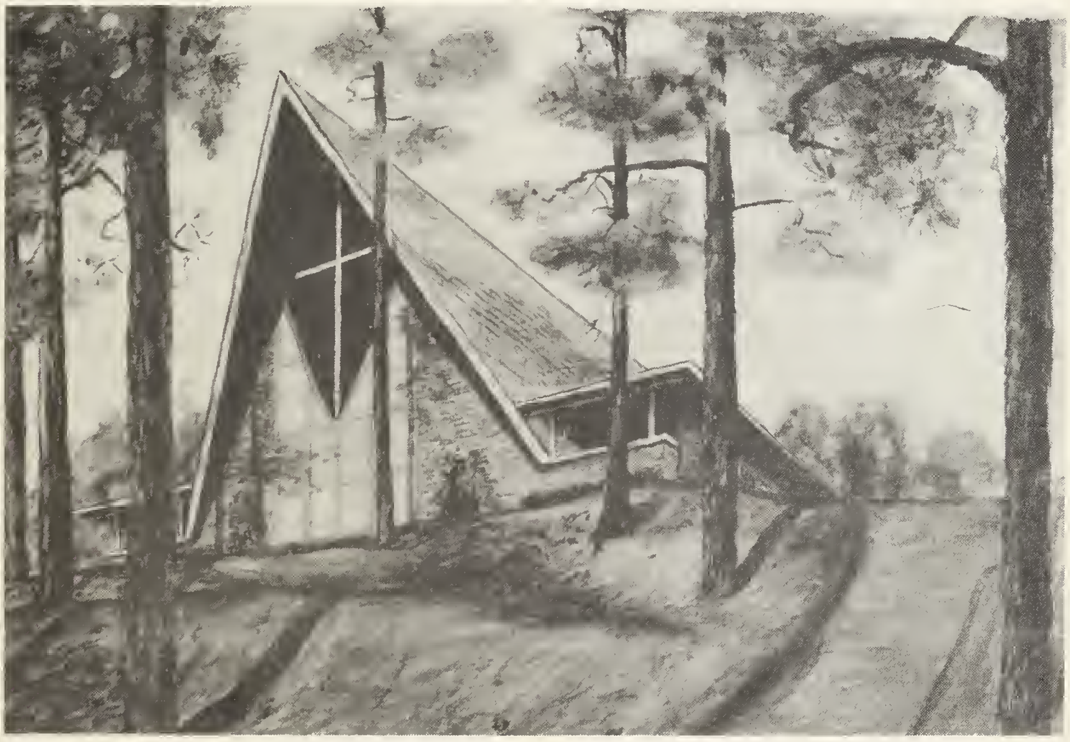

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 205 N. Claiborne Street, Goldsboro, N. C.

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"Is There A New Morality?", page 7

FEBRUARY, 1963 **VOLUME 5, NUMBER 2**

EDITORIAL: "THE CHURCH IS GROWING"

BURL CURTIS – Greenville, S. C.

DON'T STOP NOW!! Indications from all points in the Carolinas are that the church is growing. If the church where you attend is not making "outstanding efforts" to grow, it is out of step. Why not do something about it?

Have you given everyone in your community an opportunity to become a Christian and become a co-laborer in the best organization on earth, the church? What a tremendous job it would be to contact everyone but think of the great amount of good that could be done!

Certainly our task today needs the combined efforts of every interested person. There are thousands in these two states who do not attend any church with regularity. Many are members of no church. Several hundreds will quit going to any church in 1963 because they will become dissatisfied with their group's attitude toward the Holy Scriptures. Surely, some of these could be won to the truth if you will take it to them.

"Each One Teach One," is a wonderful system and is certainly according to the precepts of the scriptures. One doing the teaching another should be doing is not.

Yes, the church is growing. There will be more sermons preached, more Bible classes taught, more calls made and more converts made in the Carolinas this year than any previous year provided the Lord is willing to let the world stand. Let us pray that ours will not be a case of "too little too late."

LOOK!! The back page tells about the Advisory Board. You will want to read this. Plan to serve with this group.

You NEED to let your light shine. Send NEWS each month to the Messenger.

1963 DIRECTORY

By the time you receive this, the new directory of Carolina churches will be ready to publish. Orders are already being received for it. Price per copy will be $1.00 and you may send your order to: Carolina Christian Publications, Inc., P. O. Box 26314, Derita Branch, Charlotte, N. C. Checks should be made to Carolina Christian Publications, Inc.

One of the greatest rewards we received after publishing the 1961 issue was seeing it in the hands of those who visited here "spying out the land" in the interest of doing mission work. A similar reward was the knowledge that Glover H. Shipp used the information to publish in the Christian Chronicle an article about the Carolinas. We can make this new one more effective especially by a larger distribution.

Our thanks again this year to Bill G. Smith of Valdese, N. C. for his work in gathering the material. Bill is a wonderful and willing worker and has already meant a great deal to the work here.

So, remember to order your new directory! We plan for this one to be more attractive and more useful than the last one.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH
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The Primary Mission of The Church

Carl Lancaster – Greenville, S. C.

What is the church? What is its purpose? How is it to accomplish its purpose? These are questions on which all of us need to ponder.

The supreme purpose of the church is to mold people into the likeness of Jesus Christ that they might be saved (Eph. 4: 11-13; Phil. 2:5; I Pet. 2:21). Evangelization (teaching) is the means to be used for the accomplishment of this purpose (Mk. 16:15; Rom. 10:13-15; Jno. 6:44-45; I Cor. 1:17). This, then, is the very purpose of the church; its reason for existence. This above everything else is the work that is to do.

Is the church successfully accomplishing this purpose? In the first century it did. The church reached out in an ever widening circle -- Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, Syria and thence to other parts of Asia and Europe. In thirty years the gospel had been preached in all the world (Col. 1:5, 6) and to every creature (Col. 1:23). In the twentieth century it is quite a different story. Today there are approximately 3,000,000,000 people in the world. Around 2,820,000,000 of these people live outside the United States. Churches of Christ presently have 211 missionaries outside the continental U. S. A. This means that each of these missionaries must teach, with the help of those he converts, around 14,000,000 people, all before the passing of this generation, if the church is to accomplish its purpose. If a missionary could teach a new person every thirty minutes, eight hours a day, seven days a week, in a span of fifty years he would have taught less than one-third of one million! Pakistan has a population of 75,000,000. We have two American men there to teach them the gospel! The combined population of Korea, Japan, India and China is more than 1,000,000,000 and yet we have only a handful of missionaries in all these countries! The facts are plain; unless we change our attitudes and efforts the church will never accomplish its prime, God-given purpose.

What can be done to enable the church to reach the world with the gospel in this generation? (1) Each individual Christian must realize his responsibility to do this work. As Christians we are in partnership in a corporation. The business of this corporation is to preach the gospel to every creature in every nation in the entire world. We are equally responsible, according to ability, for the accomplishment of this task. Some must "go" (Mk. 16:15) and some must "send" (Rom. 10: 13-15) and woe is unto us if we do not (I Cor. 9:16).

(2) A larger number of full time workers must be obtained. There are not enough preachers for the present number of congregations to say nothing of all those who have never been taught about the church. In recent weeks fifteen churches in the Carolinas have been seeking preachers. This is an indication of the shortage. Preachers, elders, Bible class teachers and all in the church must encourage more of our young people to plan for full time work in the church.

(3) Preachers should plan to spend some time in mission work in foreigh lands. Those preparing to preach ought to keep that plan in view from the very beginning. Those who are already preaching (except in cases where there is a sound reason why they cannot) should also give some years of work outside the U. S. As I see the great needs in these other lands I am made to ask, and perhaps my brethren also ask, "Why doesn't someone go?" This isn't easy but isn't it about time that each of us began asking ourselves, "Why don't I go?"

(4) ALL Christians should sacrifice so this can be done. Those who go will doubtless have to make many sacrifices but they

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The Whole Picture

Joe Costilow – Rocky Mount, N. C.

Paul said, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer for Israel is, that they might be saved." (Rom. 10:1) The fact that he did not include the Gentiles in this expression does not mean that he was not concerned about them. Prior to making this statement he had been preaching to the Gentiles and, in so doing, had been accused of forsaking fleshly Israel, the Jews. His rebuttal to this charge was given in the above statement to the church at Rome. Today, we would say, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the WORLD is, that ALL might be saved."

I believe that every member of the church has this desire. It is manifest in our daily conversation. When we say we want the church to GROW it means, of course, that we want souls saved. Especially is this true in the Carolinas. Those who have been here through the early struggles of the church have hoped and prayed stedfastly that the church would GROW. Those who have come on the scene more recently are lending their hope and prayers to this same purpose. But sometimes I wonder if perhaps our vision is not a little stunted. I wonder if perhaps we have not lost our perspective.

It seems to me, that when we talk about the church GROWING, the only picture conjured up in our minds is an auditorium full of people for the Sunday morning worship service. Now, certainly, this image should always be before us. But to see no more of the overall picture than this is akin to the uninitiated viewing a great work of art.

Every great masterpiece has a focal point, a center of interest. The untrained eye sees this focal point only, and does not fully appreciate the picture as a whole. The trained eye, the eye of the connoiseur, sees much more. It sees the form, the line, the color combinations, the blending of colors, and the contrast of colors. It sees the detail, the brushwork, and all of the surrounding and background material which tend to lead the eye toward the center of interest.

Such comprehension enables a far greater appreciation of the work. It generates a greater depth of feeling in the viewer. In it is conceived the viewer's respect for the ability of the artist. Such comprehension does all of this - and it does something else! It brings an awareness that the center of interest is reduced to naught when taken out of its setting. To cut the center of interest from a masterpiece, and destroy the rest of the canvas, would leave one with nothing. So it is WITH THE CHURCH!

When we speak of wanting the church to GROW, a mental picture of a building full of people on the Lord's Day should cross our minds. But we should liken this to the center of interest in a masterpiece - and then expand our field of vision to include ALL of the things necessary to make this part of the picture stand out.

We should be able to see a building full of worshipping people at every service of the church. We should be able to see a dedicated membership infiltrating the community for Christ. We should be able to see a friendly, working congregation; each member of which is doing his part in the work. We should be able to see our classrooms fully occupied and a progressive, aggressive, well-planned Bible study program in force.

We should be able to see our individual responsibility to become teachers of the word of God, to help the poor, to encourage the distressed, to visit the sick and the afflicted. And we should be able to see with comprehension our responsibility to give of our material means in such a way that this mental picture can become a reality.

For just as the center of interest of a

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An Indictment And A Challenge

RUDY SENN
Route 1, Box 283, Duncan, S. C.

JERRY SENN
Box 53, Moore, S. C.

"Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me." (Isa. 6:8)

The following facts serve as a serious indictment of the past generation and as a compelling challenge to present day youth. Will the same indictment be made of US by future generations?

1. 90% of the members of the church of Christ in the entire world live in 6 states ...Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas.
2. At least 10 states have 10 or fewer congregations.
3. There are more members of the church in Nashville, or Dallas, or Abilene than in the combined states of Massachusetts, New York, Nevada, Utah, North Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin.
4. Of the 119,000 towns and cities in the U. S., there are 100,000 such towns without a single New Testament church.
5. In the 135 nations of the world, there are known churches of Christ in only 52, leaving 83 nations in which there is no New Testament church.
6. It is estimated that there are 18,680 churches of Christ at present while the number of preachers is probably less than 7,500 including part-time and full-time preachers. Not even half enough preachers are available to serve the congregations.
7. There are approximately 9,306 students in our Christian schools across the country. Of this number only 1,114 young men are preparing to preach the gospel.

These facts, as you must agree, make a serious "case" against the young people of the past. It is beyond our power to alter the past. The statistics which might be compiled 10 or 15 years from now could be changed considerably IF you and I begin now to PREPARE OURSELVES TO MEET PRESENT AND FUTURE NEEDS.

DEDICATION is the heart of success. In 1903, Lenin began his ungodly regime with only 17 dedicated followers. At the end of 1960, just 57 years later, 1/3 of the world's population was under the Communist banner. DEDICATION has paid off for every person or group of people who have possessed it. It will pay off for the church -- in fact without it we are lost. What would be the result if every teenager in the Carolinas reached maturity with the same dedication exhibited by the 12 apostles or of the 17 followers of Lenin? What combination of Satanic powers could withstand such an onslaught? The gospel could be taken to every nation in our generation.

True Christianity appeals to "self-sacrifice." In a time of crisis, Winston Churchill appealed to his people by saying, "I have nothing to offer but blood, sweat and tears." His people responded to this plea. Christ says to those who would be His people in this time of crisis, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me."

Our decision will determine our destiny. We believe that this challenge must be accepted by our young people if the church is to be expanded and Christ is to be glorified in our generation.

How many times have you offered to help in church work? Do the leaders have to beg you to do some small task for the Lord? Are you faithful in attendance at every service even when there is a ball game or a party? Do you study your assigned Bible lesson and read your Bible every day? Do you try to influence your friends to obey the gospel? Are you plan-

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CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

HOWARD WINTERS
Wilmington, North Carolina

There is no true worship but Christian worship. But what is Christian worship? It is the adoration of a sincere (or Christian) heart expressed in divinely appointed acts. Hence, all Christian (or true) worship must have:

I. The right object. That is, it must be directed to the one true God. This should be obvious, but we will notice anyway that: 1. The Bible forbids the worship of all other gods: "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." (Ex. 20:3.) 2. The worship of angels is also prohibited: "And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which showed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God." (Rev. 22:8-9.) 3. God banned also the worship of man or any of His creation: "And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man." (Acts 10:25-26.) 4. Finally, man cannot worship the creation of his own hands. "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth." (Ex. 20:4.) Thus the God of heaven is the only object of true worship.

II. The right motive. That is, it must be in the right spirit. Jesus said, "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." (John 4:23-24.) To worship God in spirit is simply to worship Him with the whole heart, mind, and being; it means that our worship must be deliberate, purposed, and planned. God cannot be worshipped accidentally. Hence, Christian worship must be in spirit--it must be done in the right motive.

III. The right method. That is, it must be in truth. See John 4:23, 24. To worship in truth is simply to worship according to the directions given in truth. But what is truth? Jesus said, "Thy word is truth." (John 17:17) The law of God is said to be truth. (Ps. 119:142) And again, the commandments of the Lord are truth. (Ps. 119:151) To worship in truth, then, is to worship as the word of God directs, to follow the law of God in worship, and, as we worship, obey the commands of the Lord. The right method is, therefore, to use only the acts revealed in truth. Thus, every act of Christian worship must be prescribed by truth--the word of God.

IV. The right worship. There is at least four kinds of worship mentioned in the Bible. 1. Vain worship. (Matt. 15:9) 2. Will worship. (Col. 3:20-23) 3. Ignorant worship. (Acts 17:23) 4. True worship. (John 4:23, 24) True worship is the right worship--Christian worship. God's plan for true worship is as follows:

(1). Sing. "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord." (Eph. 5:19) See also I Cor. 14:15, Col. 3:16; Acts 16:25 and James 5:13. To do more than to sing, as far as music is concerned, in Christian worship, would be to add to God's plan and would, therefore, be sinful.

(2). Pray. "Pray without ceasing." (I Thess. 5:17) See Col. 4:2, 3 and I Tim. 2:1-8. Prayer, as an act of Christian worship, is both a privilege and a duty.

(3). Teach. "Go ye therefore, and teach

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Is There A New Morality?

C. E. MANNON – Greenville, N. C.

Written on almost every page of our daily experience is something as concerns the declining morality of our time. Last spring, there came to the campus of East Carolina College here in Greenville a nationally known social worker, Dr. Paul Popenoe, who in a series of lectures, spoke once on the above question. Delivering his lecture as past president of the American Institute of Family Relations, he observed that many young people were thinking and acting in defiance of time honored standards of morality as relates to sexual intercourse outside the marriage contract, suggesting that 20-30% of marriages followed pregnancy! As further evidence of this problem, there appeared in the January '63 issue of the Reader's Digest an article--Sex on The Campus--The Real Issue--brazenly upholding as a new morality, this trend in premarital sex relations, and then, as if to add injury to insult, the infamous National Council of Churches, an ultraliberal denominational alliance, comes along with a highly irresponsible and humiliating dialogue titled: The Meaning of Sex in Christian Life in which the conclusion is reached on page 11 that "what justifies and sanctifies sexuality is not the external marital status of the people before the law but rather what they feel toward each other in their hearts."

Now, before being sold on this course of madness, one should weigh some of the consequences. One is marriage--with the attending remorse of the past for flouting the morals of decent society and suspicion about the future; namely, can this companion be trusted? Furthermore, that illegitimate child can be looked to as rising up to bring his parents shame because they brought shame (perhaps undeserving) to theirs! And thirdly, your illicit sexual relations will unmistakenly identify you as one in arrogant defiance of God's standard of morality, and "be sure your sin will find you out" in the judgment, even if some areas of society become so Satanic inspired as to approve your conduct. My friend, can you afford to treat with contempt those time honored and God ordained standards of sex behaviour, designed to save one from much unhappiness and often-times, ruined life and lost soul?

As it turns out, the fruit of this new morality is fast proving to be very dissatisfactory and falls far short of the ideal for any person concerned with the "good, true, and beautiful". In a recent newspaper headline, a leading British surgeon blames lower moral standards for chipping away at advances medicine is making to make people's lives happier and healthier. Suggesting that "leisure stricken" individuals succumb to moral deterioration, he classifies alcohol, bad manners, venereal disease, gangster attacks and murders as fruits of the new morality! Added to this testimony is the latest FBI report in which Mr. Hoover laments "the expanding scope of youthful criminality in the U. S. as one of the most disheartening things I can think of today." And, the problem came home recently when Greenville's Daily Reflector reported Pitt County's venereal disease rate as rising. Significant in the report of Mr. E. W. Foster, area U. S. Health chief, was his attributing this "latest upswing since 1957 to high mobility of population, relaxation of morals, and lack of parental supervision among young adults." Now, add to this the testimony of an irresponsible society, plagued with broken homes, wasted lives and condemned souls and you reach the irresistable conclusion that the "new morality tree" is no good and that the axe needs to be laid to its roots!

The solution to this pernicious evil in-

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PRIMARY MISSION (cont'd)

should not be expected to make them all. Perhaps one reason more preachers aren't anxious to go is because of the ordeal of having to travel around the country for six months begging Christians to "send" them. Someone will have to sacrifice to make support available. A Christian who always wanted a hi-fi set and at last has the money, decided instead though to use that money to help teach some of the 600,000, 000 Chinese about Christ. This is the kind of sacrifices that I and a million of my brethren must begin deciding to make or the church will never be able to accomplish its purpose.

(5) Every congregation should plan to do mission work. Most congregations should do both foreign and state-side mission work. There is yet a need for much work in the Carolinas. But the church has been in South Carolina for more than forty years and in North Carolina for more than ninety. How many more generations outside the United States must die without hearing of Christ while we wait for the complete evangelization of the Carolinas? Every congregation in the Carolinas ought to be working zealously to evangelize this area. Also, all who can, even in these states, ought to be doing what they can to teach the teeming millions beyond their own shores. From the very first, Phillipi had a part in that sort of work (Phil. 1:3-5). Aren't too many of our funds being used on things of secondary importance while that which is the primary mission of the church is receiving very little attention and support?

Unless we make some sweeping changes in thinking and working, in the final accounting I really fear that the Lord may say to me and to many of my brethren, "You were good people. You built attractive buildings and you made a good impression on the community where you were but you failed in the very purpose for which I placed you in the world."

—Please Renew Your Subscription—

THE WHOLE PICTURE (cont'd)

great work of art cannot be fully appreciated without seeing the whole picture, neither will we ever be able to fully appreciate an auditorium full of humble, worshipping Christians unless we can see ALL that is included in THE WHOLE PICTURE of a GROWING church!

What do you think? Is our vision stunted? Have we lost our perspective? Can we truthfully say, "My heart's desire and prayer to God for the WORLD is, that ALL might be saved? YOU be the judge!

"...let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

AN INDICTMENT (cont'd)

ning to prepare for service in the church by attending a Christian College?

We appeal to you to find your place in the work of the Lord. Whether you become an elder, preacher or teacher, make sure that above all you become a dedicated worker. Will YOU say with Isaiah, "HERE AM I SEND ME"?

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP (cont'd)

all nations." The Lord's church is a teaching institution.

(4). Commune. "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?" (I Cor. 10:16) The name of Christ can never be forgotten as long as Christians in their worship observe the Lord's supper.

(5). Give. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35) Christians bless the earth by their giving.

Thus, Christian worship is the sincere expression of the adoration of a Christian heart through divinely appointed acts--the right worship directed toward the right object with the right motive and in the right method.

NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA

Bill Shelton,
P. O. Box 5424, Raleigh, N. C.

Except for the shortage of preachers, the work in North Carolina gives more cause for rejoicing than at anytime during the 19 months that I have worked here. I suppose that every year begins with increased enthusiasm and determination, but 1963 has begun with every congregation more conscious of its need to tell the glorious gospel to others. With the evangelistic spirit upmost in the minds of Christians, we cannot help but bring glory to God.

I am still disturbed by the small number of congregations that submit a monthly report from their locality. As you will notice, there are only five reports including the one from Raleigh. Surely, there are more congregations in the state that are interested in making known their progress.

Greenville reports a dramatic finish to their gospel meeting, December 26 - 30, with Bill Flatt of Brownsville, Tennessee. Two were baptized into Christ and one soul was restored. Attendance and contribution averages for last three months at Greenville are as follows: Bible study 34; morning worship 38; evening worship 24; midweek 19; contribution $78.96. Bro. Mannon reports that twenty-eight responses are counted from the beginning of his efforts at Greenville. Of these, twenty were baptized; three responded the errors of the Christian church; three placed membership; and two confessed unfaithfulness.

The Dilworth congregation in Charlotte will begin a broadcast of its Sunday morning service on January 27. This broadcast will be carried over WAYS in Charlotte in addition to their "Know Your Bible" broadcast that is already being aired. We pray that these brethren will be able to continue their work in this area.

Bro. Paul Kidwell of Corinth, Mississippi will be in a meeting at The Plaza in Charlotte January 27 through February 3. Services will be each evening at 7:30. This meeting is designed to edify the Lord's church in Charlotte and will also provide us an opportunity to become acquainted with a worker that has decided to locate in the state. Bro. Kidwell will be in Charlotte again in April for a week's meeting, and just as soon after that as he can complete his plans, he and his family will move to Charlotte to begin his work at the Plaza.

Previous announcements have been made to the effect that Bro. Ray Fullerton will go to Scotland on a four-week evangelistic trip this summer. The group will leave via jet from New York June 6; the campaign begins in Edinburgh June 9, ends June 30 -- four Sundays and three full weeks. Edinburgh is a city of 500,000 with only one small church of Christ.

Good reports are still forthcoming from Wilson, N. C. Bro. Melton spent some time in Tennessee recently making contacts regarding the sale of bonds for the new building in Wilson. He has sold, or has commitments for $3,650.00 and has over $11,000.00 to go. In retrospect, the congregation in Wilson averaged 19 for morning worship in 1962 with an average contribution of $29.76. There were four baptisms. One family of five moved away and a family of three moved in. In prospect, the congregation there anticipates the completion of its building by spring as well as two meetings during the year and a number of area wide singings on Sunday afternoons.

Share your news with others!

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Westside congregation
T. C. Galloway, reporting

The Westside congregation ended the old year of 1962 with a total of 9 baptisms, 3 restorations and 6 to place membership. We are grateful to the Lord for this increase.

Plans are being made for gospel meetings during the coming year and a heavy, schedule of work is outlined. A budget of $230 weekly has been set up in which is included support for the work of a local colored congregation.

We are in the process of securing a suitable building lot for which a goal of May 1 has been set.

Enthusiasm for the work remains high and the outlook for this congregation is bright with the continuing fine work of Bro. Johnny Sewell.

When visiting in Charlotte we invite you to worship with us at 2651 Rozzells Ferry Road.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

Vance Street congregation
Leslie G. Thomas, reporting

The Vance Street church has just closed the best year in its history, with five confessions of wrongdoing, eight baptisms, and twenty three by membership. There was also a decided increase in interest, attendance and contributions.

WOODLEAF, N. C.

Corinth congregation
Ottis L. Qualls, reporting

The adult class here is in a study of the Apostasy, Reformation and Restoration. We recently closed a study in the teen-age class beginning with the Patriarchal Dispensation continuing through the Restoration Movement.

We are looking forward to our best Vacation Bible School this year which will be held in July. Last year our attendance

WOODLEAF, N. C. (cont'd)

for this rural congregation was good. We had an enrollment of 100 without advertising the school. This year we are looking forward to more than three classrooms to do the teaching in and a larger attendance.

At the present we have a drive on to increase our Bible study as well as our regular attendance.

RALEIGH, N. C.

Ed Woodhouse, reporting

The Lord's church in Raleigh witnessed the coming of 1963 with increased enthusiasm and determination. There are many things that cause us to be very encouraged. Beginning of the work in Henderson, N. C., increases in our contribution, appointment of four more deacons, and a determination on everyone's part to do more for God have made us aware of our great potential.

During the month of December an active program of visitation was initiated with Bro. Jim Ogburn supervising this area of work. Though it is too early to really evaluate the effectiveness of this program, the spirit manifested by those who have been asked to help, makes us realize that success is iminent. Our attendance averages for December are as follows: Bible study 143, morning worship 183, evening worship 110, and Wednesday Bible study 110. The contribution for December averaged $452.72 per week. This was quite an increase over previous months, and the fact that it came in a normally low month encouraged us.

At the present time the elders are considering various building plans for the colored congregation in Raleigh, and two men from the congregation are giving a month of their time to the preaching in Henderson. We are still in need of the addresses of men that might be interested in working full time in that city. Your suggestions of eligible men will be appre-

RALEIGH, N. C. (cont'd)

ciated.

STATESVILLE, N. C.

Broad St. congregation

Guest speakers are filling in for Harold Scott at the worship services this month. We have been happy to have Benny Burns, a DLC student preacher, Wallace Scott of Marion, N. C., C. H. Bolen of the Dilworth congregation, Charlotte, M. E. Burns of Valdese, N. C., Charles Fetters of the Plaza congregation, Charlotte and Charles Lowthorpe of this congregation. Men of the congregation here have been teaching the classes and doing other work usually carried out by Bro. Scott who is on a five week mission campaign to New Zealand. Following are excerpts from his letters about the trip:

"I've traveled 10,000 miles by now. We have visited native huts in the Fiji Islands and fine homes in Wellington. Some of the conditions in the islands are very poor and primitive. At the Fizis there was a woman chief of the tribe we visited. They sang their native songs for us and we sang hymns for them and visited their huts. The chief said we could come back and preach for them anytime. There are many buildings of the denominations, but none where Christ's church meets. We saw and were troubled. Perhaps before long the full gospel of Christ can be preached in these lands. After arriving in New Zealand we were very busy going from house to house, talking to anyone who would listen to us. So far I've talked with (besides major denominations) atheists, agnostics, those who hold to Scientology and those who believe in nothing. There were 182 present for the first service in the Town Hall on January 9, 148 for the second service; two have been baptized thus far (this after two nights of the meeting) and 60 homes have invited us in for the film strips showings and Bible study.

-- Send news items each month --

NEWS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

Billy R. Davidson, Editor
Route 6, Box 444
North Charleston, S. C.

In the last month the Durant Avenue congregation has grown in numbers by the addition of several new members. We have had seven to place membership with us, one baptism and two restored to their first love. We are currently having an average of 230 for Bible classes, 275 for preaching services and 205 for evening worship. Last night, Jan. 23, we had 196 for midweek services. God has blessed us with good growth and we hope and pray that we will be able to measure up to His standards with a good program of work.

EASLEY, S. C.

Francis Gregory, reporting

The church here has been greatly encouraged with three baptisms in the past two weeks. At the first of this year the East Gadsden congregation in Gadsden, Alabama began helping us with financial support of $25.00 a month. This will be a great encouragement to the work here.

CHESTER, S. C.

Tom Bolick, reporting

The church in Chester made an unprecedented growth in the year 1962. The church has grown every year since its inception, but 1962 showed the greatest amount of growth. During the year, new attendance records were set several times, with the newest one being set December 23, with 79 present for morning worship, and 65 for evening services. The old record was 57. The average attendance for the year was 46 for Bible study, 52 for morning worship, and 40 at the evening service. Twenty-eight was the average for Wednesday evening services. These figures are about 50% higher than the previous year, 1961. Our contributions also showed an increase with an average of

CHESTER, S. C. (cont'd)

$83.04 per Sunday. The highest contribution for a single Sunday was $284.00 on December 23. We are thankful to God and to others who have helped us through hard times, and we look forward with anticipation to greater things in this new year. This church has grown in numbers, but more dramatically has it shown an increase in love and concern for the lost and continued concern for the saints.

GREENVILLE, S. C.

Edgewood congregation
Ernest Thigpen, reporting

A review of 1962 shows the following facts and figures for the work here. Four were baptized, sixteen acknowledged wrong and five placed membership. With the Lord's blessings and with much work on the part of the members here, we were able to have our new church building erected. Attendance averaged for the Sunday morning services were 113 for Bible study and 146 for the morning worship. The giving averaged $210.47 per week. We have alloted $400.00 for mission work. Also, we have begun a special class and social each month for our teen-age classes. These will be held each month for our two teen-age classes. These will be held at the minister's home. Brother G. F. Gibbs has been asked to come speak for us January 25-27. Pray for us and the work here.

GREENVILLE, S. C.

Augusta Rd. congregation
Carl Lancaster, reporting

Averages for 1962 were as follows: Bible school 111; morning worship 139; evening worship 88; mid-week classes 76. Contributions averaged $186.99 per week. In the past three years attendance at morning worship increased 62%. Nine were baptized and 13 were restored to fellowship during the past year.

GREENVILLE, S. C. (cont'd)

The congregation faces a unique challenge early this year. The Air Force has announced plans to close Donaldson AFB that is located near the church building. We anticipate a loss of 25% of our present membership of 94. Our budget and plans are being revised to adjust to this event.

AN INTERESTING LETTER!

We would like to subscribe to the "Carolina Messenger of Truth" for one year. We have read it several times and enjoy it very much.

We are the only members of the Lord's church in Roanoke Rapids as far as we have been able to find out.

We hold services in our home and would like very much to have the names of other Christians. If you have any information of that kind we would appreciate hearing from you.

Rocky Mount is the nearest church and we don't get down there too often.

Our address is:
Robert O. Willard
P. O. Box 454
Roanoke Rapids, N. C.

THE BOOK COMMITTEE

The book committee is busily engaged in making some continuity of the sermon topics submitted by preachers in both Carolinas for the proposed book. The job could not be completed at the last meeting held at Kannapolis, N. C. last month.

The group adjourned after about four hours' discussion and decided to give the matter further consideration and submit suggestions by mail on February 1.

(see page 13)

BOOK COMMITTEE (cont'd)

The general consensus seemed to be that a combination of assigned and submitted subjects would need to be coordinated to produce the best results. Therefore, it will be impossible to use one subject from all preachers who submitted subjects. Some submitted subjects will be used; assignments will be made to other writers.

The committee feels that either extreme would not produce the best book. That is, on one hand, use only previously submitted subjects and arrange them in the best possible order with no assigned subjects to fill in the gaps. On the other hand, to fix a rigid outline and assign all subjects would take away certain originality and possibly lower the quality of the sermons. It is felt that a writer would do better discussing a familiar subject.

NORTHEAST PLANS AHEAD

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast congregation
Burl Curtis, reporting

The Northeast church is planning ahead. We do not see how all these plans can be accomplished but our trust is in God who makes all things possible. We fully believe that we will be in a much better position to accomplish our goals through planning than without it.

One of the major advances in our planning is the desire to support a missionary in full or in part. Too many times in the past, we have set the summit of our goals at a self-supporting church with an adequate building. Our plans did not include the support of a worker beyond our own borders.

In 1963 we plan to:

1. Completely pay off our building lot. We presently owe about $9,000.00 on this 2.08 acres at 2414 Wade Hampton Boulevard. The boulevard is certainly one of the best locations in this area.

2. Reach a contribution of $100.00 per week. Our budget is set at $90.00 per week but we plan, by growth, to be giving $100.00 by the end of the year or before.

3. Increase the membership by 50%. We presently have about 40 members. Our goal is to have 60 by the end of 1963.

4. Conduct special training courses for future song leaders, teachers and elders and deacons. In addition, we plan to carry on our personal work, VBS, etc.

In 1964 we plan to construct our building. We hope to be able to build all of it at one time. We plan a modern to ultra-modern building with an auditorium seating about 325. Enough classrooms will be built so that classes may be divided by grades 1-12. If we are not able to build all of the building at once, the educational part will be constructed first.

In 1967 we plan to be self-supporting.

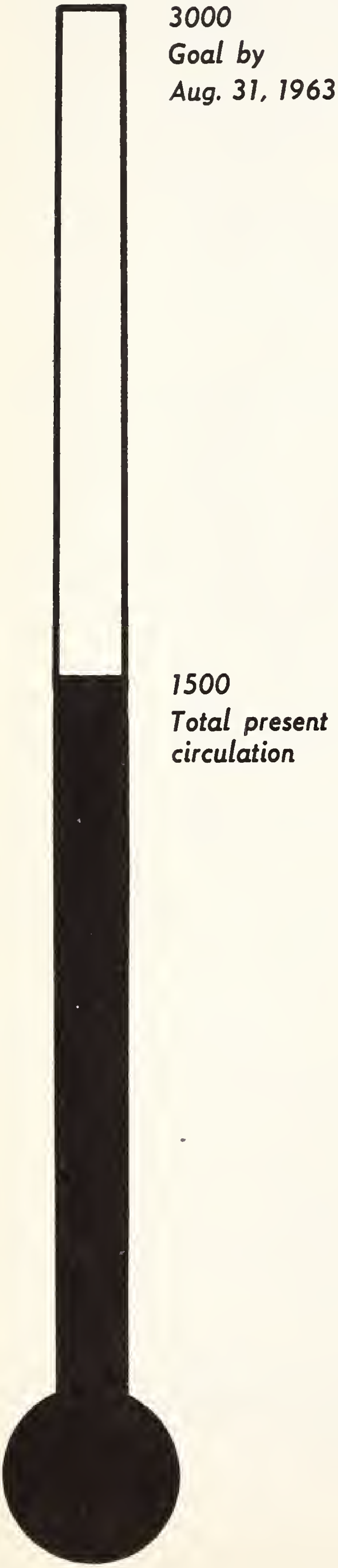
In 1970 we plan to begin supporting a missionary in part or in full.

This is a tremendous undertaking and will demand the very best of all of us, but this is the greatest work on earth, the Lord's work. The heaviest responsibilities fall upon us while we are small in numbers. It is so easy for us to choose a course that is not best just because it is cheaper. This is costly to the church later on. Many churches could now be doing much mission work if they had planned ahead in their building program. Pray for us that we may be able to do what God expects of us.

Our Sunday evening services are at 6:00 P. M. Visit with us when you are in the Greenville area.

subscribe now . . .

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH



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CAROLINA CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS, INC.
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CHARLOTTE 6, NORTH CAROLINA

NEW MORALITY? (cont'd)

evitable lies in better homes--better parents and better children. When asked why the popularity of the new morality which he so ably repudiated, Dr. Popenoe, in terse language replied: "Parents are failing their children while money-mad underworld entertainers are being allowed to influence youth's conduct by radio, screen and press." Of course, there is little hope for children whose parents demonstrate that they either don't care what the child does or prove incapable of disciplining them. The expectation of better homes, therefore, lies in a complete respect for and obedience to the word of God. While the tragic course of many lives is eloquent testimony that secularism breeds immorality, the righteousness that exalts a nation is that which grows out of fearing God and keeping his commandments. One of the greatest architects of our democracy, Thomas Jefferson, once wrote: "I have always said, and will always say, that the studious persual of the sacred volume (Bible) will make better homes, better citizens, better fathers, and better husbands." Parents who "know not God" and care less for his word cannot possibly bring up children in the way they should go. By precept and example, godly parents nurture their children in the admonition of the Lord. By this influence--invariably proven successful--children learn that immorality reigns through fornication (and all other works of the flesh), and that the pure in heart will not sacrifice their virtue for that which belongs only to the marriage bond. The years of courtship shall then be kept on a high plane with a view to an honorable and happy marriage while the whoremongers and adulterers God will condemn. To the end that you "let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God," (Romans 6: 12-13) he commands: "Flee fornication." (I Corinthians 6:18).

WEAPONS FOR THE CHRISTIAN

Elbert Schory, Jr.
Georgetown, South Carolina

Football experts have stated many times that the best offense is a good defense. This statement is certainly true regarding the spiritual war between good and evil. But the Christian needs something other than merely refraining from doing that which is wrong. We must be about doing that which is good. What are some of the weapons possessed and wielded by the child of God? Perhaps you have not thought of these as weapons, but in reality they are.

1. A life of happiness. Who would desire to become a Christian if Christian people were sad, long-faced, and Puritanical? Would Christianity make inroads in the souls of men if its followers adhered to the stoic philosophy? Why are get-togethers uplifting, fellowships strengthening, and dinners-on-the-ground satisfying? These make people happier.

2. A radiant, Christian spirit. Do people know you are a Christian? If they do, did this information come to them by word-of-mouth or could they tell by your life and attitude toward life? What has become of the Holy Spirit who was given you at baptism? Has He vanished? Is He merely holding on to your shoelaces? Or is He filling your heart and dwelling in your personality?

3. A prayerful heart, studious eyes, giving hands and a teaching tongue. Live an active life for Christ, putting to use for Him every organ and cell of your body. If your soul becomes flabby, your heart will become vile, your eyes evil, your hands bloody and your tongue mendacious.

SUPPORT the Directors in their efforts to make the Messenger an attractive and useful magazine.

CAROLINA CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS. INC.
P.O.B. 26314. DERITA BRANCH
CHARLOTTE 6. N. C.

RETURN REQUESTED

Carolina Christian Publications, Inc.
P. O. BOX 26314, DERITA BRANCH
CHARLOTTE 6, NORTH CAROLINA

Dear Sir:

As a Christian in the Carolinas we believe you see the value of having a quality monthly paper to help keep each of us in the mission field informed as to the progress and needs of other congregations and to keep us in touch with each other. We also need a paper to inform our brethren outside the Carolinas of the needs of this particular mission field and to solicit their help in spreading the gospel throughout this area. A religious journal such as this would contain religious articles by Carolina Christians for Carolina readers. The Carolina Messenger of Truth is just such a paper.

For this effort to succeed, we need your support. The Board of Directors of the Carolina Christian Publications, Inc., a non-profit organization chartered under the laws of South Carolina, has decided to form an Advisory Board which will occupy a position of great importance to the future of the paper.

The duties of the Advisory Board members are as follows:

1. Solicitation of subscriptions.
2. Submitting of news articles of the work of the congregation of which they are members.
3. Contributing of a minimum of $2 per month to help subsidize the paper until such time as the operation becomes self-supporting.
4. Submitting (voluntarily or as requested and as one's ability permits) teaching articles for publication in the Carolina Messenger of Truth.
5. Performing of other duties for the good of the paper as may become necessary from time to time.
6. Soliciting job printing for the subsidy of the Carolina Messenger of Truth as one is able expediently to do.
7. Advise us of the way in which the paper is being received in your community and offer suggestions for its improvement.

You readily see that such an Advisory Board is essential to the growth of a paper which can help the cause of Christ in this area very markedly. Advisory Board Members may live outside or inside the Carolinas.

If you, as a faithful Christian, would be willing to serve on the Advisory Board, please write us immediately. If you know of other faithful Christians who would be willing to serve on the Advisory Board, we would appreciate your sending us their names and correct addresses right away.

Sincerely,
D Rickelton
D. Rickelton, Secretary

CAROLINA

MESSENGER OF TRUTH

CHURCH OF CHRIST, Highway 176 and Buffalo Rd. Union, S. C.

- Editorial: Welcome To The Carolina Lectures, page 2
- New Zealand Campaign, page 3
- 1963 Carolina Lectures Schedule, Pages 8 and 9
- Carolina Church News, page 7

MARCH, 1963 **VOLUME 5, NUMBER33**

EDITORIAL: "Welcome To The Carolina Lectures"

MILTON S. PARKER, Union, S. C.

We are looking forward to one of the greatest events in the history of the Unio church. Since announcement was made almost a year ago that the lectures would b here this year, the elders, with the entire congregation, have been planning, prayin and working to that end.

For the glory of God and the edification of His church, we are hoping to make thi one of the best lectureships. If we can bring the brethren of the Carolinas closer together and create a better spirit of fellowship among all, our efforts will not have bee in vain.

All are invited to come and share with us in this feast of good things. (This lectureship is not just for preachers. Too many times Christians in the area have not attended like they should. Every child of God would be greatly benefited if he woul attend as many of these sessions as possible. Please come and stay for only one lesson if that is all you have time for during the day or night. - Ed.) The members her will provide lodging, breakfast and lunch for our visitors and you may be invited ou for the evening meal. If you cannot be present in person, may we have a place in you prayers?

You should have no trouble finding the church building. Come on 176 By-Pass t Buffalo Road. The building is on the corner.

At the Union church last year 15 were baptized and 16 confessed sins. Also, 9 wer added to our number by moving from other congregations. 2 have been baptized sinc the first of this year. The church here supports their local minister in meetings in number of other places during the year. On Sunday afternoon each member absen from the morning service is visited by two or more. In addition to our local work, w contribute monthly to an orphanage, the colored mission work in Columbia and th article carried monthly in the Spartanburg Herald.

Remember the dates are April 1 - 5, 1963. We hope to see you at the lecture.

SPECIAL APRIL ISSUE

In April the Messenger will have as its special theme "The Christian Home." Johnny Sewell has been asked to serve as special guest editor. Watch for it. Buy it and use it.

NOTICE!!!

North Carolina subscribers, please add 3% sales tax to your subscription.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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Johnny Sewell, Production Mgr.	Harold Scott, Advertising Mgr.
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NEW ZEALAND CAMPAIGN

HAROLD L. SCOTT, Statesville, North Carolina

On Dec. 31st, I left Charlotte airport ound for New Zealand and my first overeas mission work as a part of the Welington Campaign sponsored by the Central Church of Christ in Valdosta, Ga. The oal of the 35 Christians who left Los Aneles together was to accelerate the conersion of the world by establishing a conregation of the New Testament church in Wellington, New Zealand.

New Zealand was chosen for the mission ecause it is an English speaking country, mall enough to teach relatively quickly, table enough to find lasting conviction, nd prosperous enough to become selfupporting quickly and to share the responibility of evangelizing that section of the world.

Wellington was chosen because it is the capital city, centrally located, and is the ews center of the country. There was oly one known member of the Church of Christ as we know it in Wellington before the campaign. Now, a congregation of 34, the second largest church of Christ in New Zealand worships and works there.

The church was at one time strong in New Zealand, but the digression in worhip and organization swept away the New Testament order; until by 1910, the movement became known as the Associated Church of Christ. This is now an ultraiberal group that has dwindled to a memership of about 10,000.

As we winged our way over the Pacific, It became evident that the size and seriusness of our task was felt by each of us. Open Bibles were very much in evidence in spite of varying years of experience in Bible teaching and preaching, felt the inadequacy of our knowledge of God's word and our ability to present it successfully. However, it was a group which took literally the admonition, "if any is happy, let him sing hymns"...for we strengthened our faith and drew nearer to the source of it and to each other by much spontaneous hymn singing. The experience of being with others of like mind and purpose in such an effort is a thrilling one.

At Honolulu we were met, when we arrived at midnight, by a group of about 50 Christians from the Pearl Harbor church of Christ. They had come to both welcome us and bid us God speed for we had only about an hour there. Many times we had occasion to realize fully the meaning of the hymn, "Blest Be The Tie That Binds."

Stops at the Samoan and Fiji Islands were pleasant physically; for these are beautiful South Sea Islands, but spiritually they left me with a sense of the urgency of the world's need. These friendly natives are being taught a form of Christianity by many sects, but there is no New Testament church on any of the islands. One of the Fiji tribal chiefts told us we would be welcome to come back and preach anytime. So many doors are open--and we not there!

On Friday evening, Jan. 4, we arrived in Wellington; quite travel weary, but eager to get started to work. At 8 o'clock Saturday morning we met for our first devotional service, which was a daily pattern that served to heighten the zeal and purpose with which our days work was met. Afterward, Bro. Ivan Stewart, Director of Personal Work, divided the group into five teams of 6 members each plus a team leader. Each team was assigned a section of the city in which to work, and we began the first part of our saturation campaign-

NEW ZEALAND CAMPAIGN (Cont'd)

--to let everyone in town know that we were there and why we had come.

Prior to our coming, and during the campaign, $4,000 was spent on newspaper, magazine and radio advertising. Street banners were put up, and we distributed 40,000 brochures working on the streets, from the railway and bus terminals, and from door to door. If a person showed any interest, a contact card was made and an appointment set up. Our goal was to set up and conduct as many home Bible study sessions as possible. After the evening services began on Wed. Jan. 9, we had little time to hand out brochures on the streets because many teaching appointments had been made and we were concentrating on working in the residential sections from house to house. We wanted to conduct as many home studies as possible during the campaign itself so that it might reinforce the evening services. These home studies were conducted at any time of the day or night--some even after the evening services at the Town Hall. In all, 203 home studies were conducted during the 3 week campaign and there were still about 60 homes which had requested a study that campaign workers had not been able to get to. These will be conducted by the three evangelists remaining in Wellington and the two who are moving there to work beginning in June. In all, 661 contacts were made, and about half of these were left for the local men to follow up. I would say that at least a hundred of these and that is a conservative estimate, will yield fruit in time.

As a result of the advertising and the five days of "Operation Saturation," there were 188 present for the opening service of the meeting at the Town Hall. Flowers, a welcoming gesture from the city of Wellington, banked the stage, which shared the speakers stand and the baptistry. The latter was a metal tank made by a local tinsmith.

During the services the workers scattered themselves throughout the audienc so that each visitor might be welcomed ar served in any way possible. The friendliness of the group from America made deep impression on the reserved Ne Zealanders and they responded warml It was not uncommon for us to be invite into their homes for meals and thus ar other opportunity to teach Christ.

We found the people generally quite reserved but friendly and courteous. Ther is a great lack of Bible knowledge, perhaps the result of a "state church" whic does not encourage Bible reading--the Anglican group. Also, the emphasis on materialism of the political welfare state a contribution factor to a disinterest things religious. There were many, man people, young and old who said, "I'm n interested in any religion.

The Mormon and Jehovah's Witnes groups have knocked on every door, already several years ahead of us--and hav generally antagonized the people. As soo as we convinced them we were simpl working for New Testament Christianit they became quite receptive. Discourtes was the exception, not the rule.

Religiously, most were Anglican, Catholic and Presbyterian--as could be expected from their English and Scotch heritag We also met Hindus, (one man claimed be 3 trillion years old and said he cou remember the last 1000 years clearly Naturalists, Brethren (3 branches--one s exclusive they will associate only wi each other socially or religiously), Agnostics and atheists abound. Many hav an unusual interest in divine healing. (Th basis for this would make an interestin psychological-sociological study). As our country, it seemed that religion wa too often a superficial part of life. B we did find many Bible-studying, tru seeking people and these responded mo readily. I was privileged to help wor with five who were baptized or restore One of these was a man, Jew by nationa

NEW ZEALAND CAMPAIGN
(Cont'd)

ty, who had studied to be a Rabbi. He vas converted to Catholicism, had studed himself out of that and into the Assoiated Church of Christ which had bapized scripturally in years past. When aught the errors in his worship, he reounced them in a written statement and vas accepted into the fellowship of the Vellington congregation. He is a highly ducated man, having several college derees. He would like to correspond with ellow Christians in the States, and I will e glad to put you in touch with him if ou'd care to write.

Finally, in evaluating the group's mision campaign effort, I would list several dvantages. These are not in order of mportance, but only in the order in which hey occur to me.

First: The city-wide advertising done nd obvious financial and worker support iven such an effort makes a tremendous mpression on a town and gives a begining congregation an invaluable impetus or growth. A lot of free publicity accrues o such an effort, not only through organzed media but by word of mouth.

Second: It has been proved by this and revious campaigns that the method is nuch more economical and effective in the ong run than sending one or two families nto a town of such size. The group camaign can do as much work and convert as nany souls in a month as one man can in everal years. The congregation of 30 vhich remain in Wellington is able to help upport itself as well as each Christian ow being a worker to convert others.

Third: The group encourages and inspirs each other. The feeling of being part f a team dedicated to preaching Christ is ever so strong as when working with so nany others of like mind and kindred spirt. Too, in such a group, various talents nd training are available. One man may have made a particular study of Christian Evidences and thus be more qualified to work with the Atheist or agnostic.

There is no question that this method can accelerate the growth of the church in a city by many years. Twenty-six were baptized in Wellington, two converted from the Christian church. There were many people who were "almost persuaded" and which further teaching will harvest. We expect at least another 15 of those we were working with to respond soon. I am convinced, after seeing the cross section of the population which responded, and the quality of those baptized, having discussed the Bible with many of them personally, that this method was highly effective in Wellington.

After all, this is no really new method. It is a simple combination, in modern dress, of the means so effectively used by the apostolic church to convert the world: house to house teaching, plus pulpit preaching--done on an around the clock basis by dedicated Christians.

I'm very glad I could go. Those of you who helped me to do so can know that there are people on the other side of the world who were not Christians a month ago, and who are now are--partly because of you. Though the cockney accent was sometimes hard for my southern ears to decode, the hearts of the people were like those every where--some hard, some shallow, some good and honest in which the seed will continue to grow. The friendships made there will be, I believe, some of my most abiding. We were met by some skepticism as to why we should have come so far to teach God's word when they had Bibles and churches already, but those who were converted understood and rejoiced.

YOUR CO-OPERATION NEEDED

Please support the Directors in their efforts to improve the Messenger. Help in the subscription drive!

EDDIE CANFIELD, Wilmington, North Carolina

There is not enough joy in the world today. Nor is there enough joy in the church. To go even further, there is not enough joy in the lives of Christians.

I think we all know what joy is, but I want us to think of it now in an acrostic manner in which--

J — is for Jesus
O — is for others
Y — is for yourself.

This is the order in which they ought to come: Jesus first, others second and yourself third. But far too many Christians misspell the word in their lives. They have it YJO (self first, Jesus second, others third) or YOJ (self first, others second and Jesus third). But the only, combination that can produce joy is J-O-Y --Jesus, other, self.

JESUS FIRST

We all know that Jesus could be the first thought in our lives. To be pleasing to God we must put him first in everything. We all have a choice of either serving ourselves (which is the same as serving the devil) or we can serve God. But Jesus tells us in Matt. 6:24 that we cannot serve two masters, So we must choose between God and the devil. But if we serve the Lord, we must put him first in our lives. Again, Jesus said, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33)

OTHERS SECOND

Next in our lives we need to be more concerned about the spiritual and material needs of others. We need to apply Jesus' teaching in Matt. 25:35-46 more in our daily conduct. When we forsake those who are less fortunate than ourselves, we are in reality forsaking Jesus. Let us not make the mistake of judging the cause of the plight of others lest we lose sight of the fact that the Bible teaches that we are to do good unto all people. We should always be ready to extend a helping hand to those in need. And remember, once an opportunity to do good has slipped by, it is gone forever. Therefore, let us do good at every opportunity.

YOURSELF THIRD

I do not have the words to describe the wonderful feelings of personal satisfaction that comes to me when I put Jesus and others first in my life. There are many blessings to be received here on this earth that is the results of our concern for others, of putting others before self. You have to experience these blessings to know the full meaning or the blissful peace of mind that come from self denial. Phil. 2:4 teaches us to be concerned both for our own interest and for the interest of others. In this Jesus set us an example. He said that he came to minister and not to be ministered to. A good question then to ask is, "Are we following Jesus in this?"

Thus, the secret of Joy is to put Jesus first, others second and yourself third in a life of service.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast Congregation
Burl Curtis, Reporting

We invite all of you here for a singing April 14 at 3:00 P.M. This will be the second Sunday of our meeting with Gordon Teffeteller of Durham, N. C. Our meeting will be April 7-14 at 7:30 each evening. Remember, Sunday evening services are at 6:00. Please attend any of these services that you can.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

BILL SHELTON, *N.C. News Editor*

BILLY DAVIDSON, *S.C. News Editor*

NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA

Bill Shelton,
P. O. Box 5424, Raleigh, N. C.

With the very gracious consent of the elders at Raleigh, I have been permitted to spend a few days this month visiting preachers and other Christians in the areas east of Raleigh. It has been a very rewarding experience for me to witness the spirit of determination and optimism that is felt by these brethren. A feeling of discouragement simply never enters the mind of these ministers, and I am sure that their spirit is the true spirit of the entire state. I visited preachers in Wilson, Pike Road, Rocky Mount, Fayetteville, Goldsboro and Jacksonville; and though all of them could not report a large number of recent converts, their spirits were high, their planning definite and their hopes and dreams accompanied by prayer and work. Everyone I talked to was impressed with the improvements in the printing of the Messenger and each of them assured me that they were willing to help in everyway possible with the subscription drive.

The discouraging part of these visits was the distance that I was required to travel between congregations of the Lord's church. In order to travel from Raleigh to these places it is necessary to travel through dozens of towns and communities where there is not one known member of the church of Christ. An example of what I mean can be seen by traveling from Raleigh to Wilmington and passing through Smithfield, Mt. Olive, Faison, Warsaw and Burgaw-cities or communities of reasonable size where the church has never been established. Though I realize that this is only a small segment of a sorrowful condition throughout North and South Carolina, it has made me so much more aware of how we as God's people need to become more mindful of the lost souls around us. I am thankful that the larger and older congregations in North Carolina have shown their awareness of these needs in their 1963 budgets. May God help us to see the time when every citizen will at least know the church exists. This is itself will be quite an accomplishment.

The good news has reached us from Jamesville that Bro. Douglas Woodward has moved to that area and will be taking over the preaching duties at Jamesville. He will be partially supported by the Pike Road congregation. Bro. Woodward is moving from Arab, Alabama. We welcome him to North Carolina.

Due to the concentrated efforts of Christians in the Washington, N. C. area, television station WITN (channel 7) will begin the Herald of Truth lessons on March 10. These programs will be aired at 10 A. M each Sunday. The Christinas in that area would appreciate a letter from you to the station expressing our thanks to them for making this time possible.

Goldsboro reports two identifying themselves of January 20. The church in Goldsboro and the College church in Abilene will share in the support of Bro. Fullerton in his evangelistic campaign for Edinburgh, Scotland. Bro. Fullerton still needs financial help, $800-$900, to meet the cost of travel expenses.

We join with the Plaza congregation in expressions of delight in being able to obtain Bro. Paul Kidwell as their regular preacher. Reports are that the recent meeting he held for that congregation can be counted among the great spiritual blessings for the members of the church in that area.

Bro. Bob Petree, preacher for the Bonnie Doone congregation in Fayetteville, has

1963 CAROLINA LECTURE PROGRAM...

MONDAY

7:00-7:20 p. m.	Song Service	
7:20-7:50 p. m.	Virgil Richie	"The Lord's Supper"
7:55-8:30 p. m.	Roy Burgess	"Jesus Humbled Himself"

TUESDAY

9:30-10:00 a. m.	Morning Devotional and Announcements	
10:00-10:30 a. m.	Floyd H. Gentle	"How We Should Answer"
10:35-11:05 a. m.	Frank R. Milton	"Rightly Dividing the Word"
11:10-11:40 a. m.	Tom Bolick	"The Poor In Spirit"
11:45-12:15 a. m.	C. E. Mannon	"The Challenge To Think"

LUNCH

1:45-2:15 p. m.	Jesse Condra	"Divine Law"
2:20-2:55 p. m.	Bill G. Smith	"The Sin Of Substitution"
3:00-4:00 p. m.	J. R. Costilow	"Ways of Improving the Lectureship" (Open Forum)
4:05-4:35 p. m.	Duane Ginn	"Leaning On Jesus"
7:00-7:20 p. m.	Song Service	
7:20-7:50 p. m.	Ottis L. Qualls	"What Shall Your Answer Be?"
7:55-8:30 p. m.	P. L. Manning	"How Great Is Your Faith?"

WEDNESDAY

9:30-10:00 a. m.	Morning Devotional and Announcements	
10:00-10:30 a. m.	C. R. Franks, Jr.	"Unity-Product of Diligence"
10:35-11:05 a. m.	J. H. Blackman, Jr.	"Personal Responsibility"
11:10-11:40 a. m.	Charles Chandler	"Things That Make the Church Grow"
11:45-12:15 a. m.	Howard Winters	"Working Out Our Own Salvation"

LUNCH

1:45-2:15 p. m.	Bill Perkins	"Progress - Its Problems"
2:20-2:55 p. m.	Burl Curtis	"Changes Necessary for Future Growth"
3:00-4:00 p. m.	Johnny Sewell	"Carolina Bible Camp" (Visual aids and slides)
4:05-4:35 p. m.	Chester Hunnicutt	"The Cherokees"
7:00-7:20 p. m.	Song Service	
7:20-7:50 p. m.	Olan Hicks	"20th Cen. Strategy 1st Cen. Mission"
7:55-8:30 p. m.	U. A. Hall	"The Beatitudes"

April 1-5, Church of Christ, Union, S.C., 176 By-Pass & Buffalo Road

THURSDAY

9:30-10:00 a. m.	Morning Devotional and Announcements	
10:00-10:30 a. m.	Rhoden Presnell	"Why Some Live Better"
10:35-11:05 a. m.	Bill Shelton	"A Close Look At Temptation"
11:10-11:40 a. m.	Ernest Thigpen	"Exhort One Another Daily"
11:45-12:15 a. m.	Harold L. Simmons	"Christian Growth"
LUNCH		
1:45-2:15 p. m.	Walter Neal	"What Is A Christian?"
2:20-2:55 p. m.	Waymon Love	"Preaching The Gospels-Methods"
3:00-4:00 p. m.	Ray Fullerton, Jr.	"Spreading The Gospel Of Christ" (Open Forum)
4:05-4:35 p. m.	Luther A. Atkinson	"Following Christ"
7:00-7:20 p. m.	Song Service	
7:20-7:50 p. m.	Noyles E. Sewell	"Christ Is The Answer"
7:55-8:30 p. m.	C. W. Bradley	"Jesus Christ Is The Same"

FRIDAY

9:30-10:00 a. m.	Morning Devotional and Announcements	
10:00-10:30 a. m.	Jerry Senn	"Preachers & The Young People"
10:35-11:05 a. m.	Rudy Senn	"The Gospel in The Old Testament"
11:10-11:40 a. m.	Carl Lancaster	"A Christian and Riches"
11:45-12:15 a. m.	Douglas Woodward	"The Preacher And His Work"
LUNCH		
1:45-2:15 p. m.	J. B. Whitaker	"How To Have A Successful Meeting"
2:20-2:55 p. m.	Select Place For LECTURSHIP For 1964	
3:00-4:00 p. m.	Harold L. Scott	"Report On New Zealand Campaign"
4:05-4:35 p. m.	M. F. Norwood	"Things That Assure Success"
7:00-7:20 p. m.	Song Service	
7:20-7:50 p. m.	C. H. Woodroof	"The Right Church
7:55-8:30 p. m.	Announcements	

been working diligently with a small group of Christians in Sanford. He spent a week recently in a visitation program in that city. He presently is conducting Sunday afternoon services in Sanford, in addition to the regular services in Fayetteville. The Cape Fear congregation in Fayetteville reports continual progress on their building plans.

Three members recently identified themselves with the congregation at Durham. This brings the membership of that congregation to 82. The congregations at Raleigh, Wilson, Henderson and Rocky Mount have been showing Herald of Truth films made available to them by the cooperative efforts of North Carolina churches. These lessons by Batsell Barrett Baxter are top quality and have been well received at every place.

We all rejoice at the results of the New Zealand mission effort. We are especially glad that Harold Scott of Statesville had a safe trip and is back with us. We are including a summary of the efforts in New Zealand in another part of this issue.

PIKE ROAD, N. C.
Jesse Condra, Reporting

On February 7, one of our estemmed members, Bro. W. Arthur Respess passed away. We mention this because Bro. Arthur was known by many of our readers of The Messenger. He was one of the original members of the Pike Road church, which was established in 1938. Bro. Arthur was one of the first elders and worked unceasingly for the cause of Christ in our community and surrounding areas. The seeds of righteousness that Bro. Arthur sowed will be reaped for generations to come. We shall feel his loss greatly.

Looking back over the year 1962, we find that we had six baptisms and two re-

storations. Our average attendance o Sunday morning was 135-140 and on Sunday night and the mid-week service w averaged 100.

We are now making plans and preparations for our Vacation Bible School whic will start on June 10. Bro. Virgil Hal will hold our meeting which will start o August 5.

We at Pike Road are indeed happy to hav so many sister congregations in our stat and to see the progress that the church i making, especially here in the east. Fo so many years we were the only congregation for miles. We must not pat ourselves on the back and be satisfied, fo we have barely scratched the surface o the work to be done.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Cape Fear Congregation
B. G. Langston, Reporting

Since we have not reported on the wor at Cape Fear during the first ten month of its history, we use this medium to le the brethren know the highlights of 196 and a few major plans for 1963.

Highlights of 1962

1. The Cape Fear congregation of th church of Christ had its beginning on Apri 1 being supported by the Lincoln and Fanning Heights congregations in Huntsville Alabama; with a nucleus of 40 member meeting in Jernigan-Warren Chapel.
2. Publication of a weekly bulletin.
3. Weekly articles in the Fayettevill Observer.
4. A gospel meeting July 8-19 under tent on Village Drive.
5. Purchased a building site on Villag Drive.
6. Rented a dwelling and started Bibl classes for all ages August 1.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.

7. There were 5 baptisms, 8 restorations and 23 to place membership.
8. Approximate average of attendance and contribution: Bible study 51, Worship A.M. 56, worship P.M. 50, contribution $127.67, Bible study (Wed.) 43.
9. We started the new year with 57 members.

A Few Major Plans for 1963

1. We have already begun a "Visualized Bible Correspondence Course" which is being advertised through the Fayetteville Observer. At the time of this writing 14 have enrolled.
2. A visitation program has been organized in which most of our members have volunteered to help.
3. We hope to get several members interested in cottage meeting work.
4. 1963 should not pass into history without the completion of a new building.
5. One or two gospel meetings.
6. Vacation Bible school providing our meeting house is completed in time.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Howard Winter, Reporting

January has been one of the most thrilling and exciting months of my entire preaching life. The Lord has sent special blessings to Wilmington. I wish it were possible to record all the wonderful experiences we have had, but this we cannot do-but they are recorded in heaven and in our hearts. I give the following statistics which, although they look good and we are proud of them, we realize they do not meet our potential: one baptism - a very fine lady who had done much work in the Salvation Army; two new families moved to Wilmington, pushing us upward and forward; our film strips were used to a greater extent than ever before; attendance was good - an average of 52 per Sunday; the contribution continues to increase with an average of $87.11 in January. The people who have lived here for many years tell me that the church is in the best condition ever. WE ARE ON OUR WAY UP!

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Virgil Hale, Reporting

Due to a lot of sickness in the congregation, the attendance during the month of January was not what it should have been. It seems that the "flu bug" has been active here as it has in so many places. Our largest attendance on Sunday morning was 64, but one Sunday morning we only had 49 present. We hope that everyone will soon be able to be back with us. Our largest contribution during the month was $84.62. This is actually more than usual.

Lord willing, we will have a gospel meeting the last week in March. The preaching is to be done by Bro. Neal Penny from Milan, Tennessee. The Fanning Heights congregation in Huntsville, Alabama is sending Bro. Penny here for this meeting. We covet your prayers and attendance during this effort to reach lost souls.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
West Side Congregation
Thamer C. Galloway, Reporting

Since our last report, we have increased by one baptism and two memberships placed.

We are presently engaged in several cottage meetings. We know of no better way to teach the interested people of this area and to spread the borders of the kingdom.

On the second Sunday of March, another in the series of Burch advertisements will appear in the Charlotte Observer. Each one is being financed by one of the congregations in this area. In March it will be sponsored by the Rock Hill church. As a result of the ads we are receiving many requests for the correspondence course offered by the Westside congregation.

The attendance continues to be good at our bi-monthly personal work meetings. We have divided West Charlotte into two areas. Each group has a get-together at a home on one of its members approximately every two weeks during which we plan our programs of visitation and have a period of fellowship. This has proved to be an excellent means of developing a closeness among our members, as well as furthering our personal work program.

At our regular monthly teacher's meetings we are now using a film strip training series, with which we hope to improve the quality of teaching in our Bible classes. Our children's classes are overflowing and more room is greatly needed. We are still hoping to meet our goal we have set of obtaining a suitable lot by May 1. When in Charlotte, worship with us!

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Hoyle Burton, Reporting

The elders and members of the Plaza congregation are happy to report the progress and work of the church in this area.

We have just completed a very successful gospel meeting held by Bro. Paul Kidwell from Corinth, Mississippi. This meeting was primarily planned to instruct us in the work of the church and to strengthen our zeal in wanting to see the church grow in the city of Charlotte. We were fortunate in receiving support from neighboring congregations. Many attended from distant towns.

We are also happy to report that Bro. Paul Kidwell will soon be with us as a regular preacher. He is a very learned and talented man in the work of the church. He will be a great example to us in serving the Lord.

We were fortunate in having Bro. Dale Lemmon from the Northeastern Institute of Christian Education in Villanova, Pennsylvania with us on January 13. He gave us an excellent lesson on "The Power o God."

We have had eight indentifications o members moving to Charlotte, one baptism and one restoration to God in the las few weeks. Spiritual growth is truly the result of spiritual work!

SHELBY, N. C.
Bob Herndon, Reporting

We have recently purchased a two-story dwelling to use as a meeting house. It is located at 847 Warren Street (U. S. 74 Business West). We are presently remodeling the building and plan to occupy it by the first of March.

Our offering last month averaged $98.00.

Hubert Reeves and I are presently doing the preaching. Frank B. Shepherd was with us for several months in 1962 but is now in Hawaii.

BRYSON CITY, N. C.
Carlton Elkins, Reporting

I am recuperating speedily from a heart attack that I suffered on January 18th. Thanks to all for cards, letters and prayers received. With some readjustments I am assured of being able to continue a full schedule of work soon.

BOONE, N. C.
Orlan Sawey, Reporting

In September, 1962, I moved to Boone, where I am teaching English at Appalachian State Teachers College and helping with the work of the church. The church in Boone is small in numbers; the presence of the college here should help, but it has not to any great extent.

There are several students at the colege who are members of the church, or ho have indicated preference for the hurch. A few have attended regularly, ut locating them is difficult since a search hrough the records of about three thouand students must be made. This search s hampered, also, by the fact that the onservative Christian church in this aea frequently calls itself the church of hrist.

The church building at Boone is on Highay 421 at the city limits, about a mile rom the college. Transportation is availble for any student who wishes to attend ur meetings. My telephone number is 64-8074. I (and others) will be glad to nake all the trips necessary to provide ransportation for all.

Much has been written about the tendency f those who attend state schools to depart rom the faith. This is a real danger, just s sending children to public elementary r high schools, or letting them play with he neighbor children, or letting them out f the house, is a danger. The real cause f unfaithfulness is a lack of basic knowedge of the truth, a result of lack of teachng in the church and in the home. I beieve that the truth will withstand all error; n general, I have observed that students rom active churches and from homes where the parents are strong, Christians remain faithful.

The parents and the members of the church at the student's home have a great influence on a student. They can help the college student to remain firm in his convictions. Thus I have the following requests to make of parents whose youngsters are attending A. S. T. C. and of elders and preachers of congregations from which these students come:

1. Please send me (see the above address) the names and school addresses of A. S. T. C. students who are members of the church. We will contact them, if we have not done so already.

2. Directly influence these students to make an effort to attend all of the church meetings while they are at Boone and to assume the responsibility of calling for a ride.

3. Help them not to see the church just as a haven of refuge and a place of worship. Teach them the necessity and the glorious privilege of church work. We need workers!

We cannot promise to provide for your children a "home away from home" or an exciting social life (although I know of no more exciting life than that of a Christian). I doubt that we should. But we do have fellowship together in worship of God and in the study of his word. These are the eternal values.

RALEIGH, N. C.

Ed Woodhouse, Reporting

The church in Raleigh was made to rejoice on February 23 as four persons identified themselves with the congregation here and one was restored in the Lord's work. We feel that much of this is a result of a well-planned visitation program being carried on by the members here.

The church budget for 1963 calls for $506.54 a week with the largest amount being allotted for evangelistic work to help spread the gospel in Raleigh and surrounding areas. Particular congregations to be helped are those in Whiteville, Henderson and the Bloodworth Street congregation in Raleigh.

Plans for a spring meeting are underway and a definite time will soon be arranged. Bro. T. A. Isaacs, who is now preaching in New Orleans, Louisiana, will be the speaker. Bro. Isaacs is well known to the state, as he has preached in this area in the past.

Brothers Jack Green, Ken Davis, Wayne Robison, Wilburn Greenhaw and Franklin Black have been carrying on the work in Henderson for the month of February.

RALEIGH, N. C. (Cont'd)

Everyone has been encouraged by the work there.

For the past four Sunday evenings the congregation has been viewing several Herald of Truth films with Bro. B. B. Baxter speaking. The films have been very inspiring.

Again we would like to remind you to send names of students or persons having recently moved into the Raleigh area so that we might contact these people and encourage them in the Lord's work.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Bloodworth Congregation
Randall Harley, Reporting

The building fund has now grown to approximately $1,700. It is hoped that plans will soon be completed for the new building which is expected to be erected this year.

Bro. Cowan has preached at the colored congregations at Winston-Salem and Wilmington this month.

The members at Bloodworth Street wish to thank these congregations for their contributions to the building fund. Additional contributions should be mailed to Bro. Enoch Scarborough at 1812 Hadley Road in Raleigh.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad Street Congregation
Harold L. Scott, Reporting

Yearly averages for 1962 at Broad St. were: 140 for Bible study, 176 for morning worship, 98 for evening worship.

There were 10 baptized in 1962; no record is kept of restorations. $1,500 was spent in Taylorsville, N. C. to help establish the church there. $175 was contributed toward the placing of newspaper advertizing in the Charlotte Observer.

The regular 30 minute radio broadcast on Sunday morning was carried on. The congregation here contributed $700 toward the New Zealand Mission Campaign. Plans for a building addition were submitted t Raleigh and are in the processing stag still. When these are finally worked ou to the satisfaction of the building inspecto and the architect, classrooms and an office will be added to our building. We ar hoping to have it by VBS time this year.

STATESVILLE, N. C. (Cont'd)

ALBEMARLE, N. C.
Frank Milton, Reporting

I have already designated, in a recen issue of the Messenger, that I would b leaving Albemarle in June. However, a that time I was planning to move bac West in order to get my children in College. Since then I have made plans wit the church in High Point, N. C. to mov there in June. However, we do not hav a man to move here yet.

I would like to say a little about the wor here in case someone may be interested The building is a little more than a yea old, completely air-conditioned and soun proof. It has the wood arches, which no only adds beauty, but has the best acoustics I have ever known. Neighbors an friends continue to talk about how wonderful the singing sounds. The building is located on Highway 52, one of the busies highways in the state. A new neighborhoo is springing up in the community and there is no other church building within one hal mile.

Membership is small (see January issue but we have a fine group, all in harmony and will be able to ordain elders and deacons in the near future.

Albemarle is a very friendly town, an we have had no trouble in getting int homes to teach. This should be a goo opportunity for someone interested i working with a small congregation. For details write: Mr. C. C. Pinkston, 509 S. Second St., Albemarle, N. C.

SUMMARY OF NEW ZEALAND WORK

Because we think you're interested in the

UMMARY (Cont'd)

eople who now make up the church in ellington, New Zealand, as well as the umerical figures, we will submit the following report of the campaign.

455 individuals attended the evening services of the mission.

196 enrolled in six lesson Bible corresondence course.

611 contacts were made.

28 responses to preaching (26 baptisms nd 2 restorations).

203 studies conducted.

14 American workers in whole of New ealand.

35 total number of American workers oing for campaign (3 remained).

13 New Zealand workers helped in camaign.

64 average Sunday A. M. attendance.

130 average campaign evening attendance.

188 high attendance during campaign.

$112.00 average contribution on Sundays f campaign (average N. Z. salary is aout $15.00 per week. This contribution as from N. Z. and American Christians. he American Christians had left their egular contributions with their home conregations and many had sacrificed to proide part or all their travel fund to N. Z.)

ALDESE, N. C.
adeline C. Brown, Reporting

The all-time record for Wednesday night ttendance of the Valdese church has roken February 13th, with 40 present. e have classes for all ages with dedicatd, qualified teachers, and interest is igh. Only 38 were present last Sunday orning due to so much sickness among e members. Our January averages are s follows:

Daily Bible readers	29.25
Bible classes	41.75
Worship	48.75
Night worship	26.25
Wednesday Bible classes	32.50
Contribution	$152.21

VALDESE, N. C. (Cont'd)

A ladies' Bible class has been organized and met this week for the first time with 10 ladies present. We decided to meet on the third Tuesday of each month in our homes with the lady in whose home we meet in charge of the service for that month.

We are now working toward a good meeting in June with Brother A. T. Pate of Nicholsville, Ky. as guest speaker. The plans are now for our vacation Bible school to be that same week so we can have the help of the visiting preacher and his family.

NEWS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA
Billy R. Davidson, Editor
Route 6, Box 444
North Charleston, S. C.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
Shandon Congregation
George Kennedy, Reporting

The Shandon church of Christ has entered the year 1963 with a weekly budget of $568 and attendance goals of 325 for Sunday morning Bible study, 375 for Sunday morning worship, 235 for the evening worship service and 210 for Wednesday evening Bible Study.

The Elders have set up a program of work for the year which, when carried out, will assure meeting our goals. Already since the first of the year we have increased our Bible study classes to nineteen and, with the recent purchase of the house behind our educational wing, there will be room for more.

In addition to the program of local work, which includes cooperating in the establishing of a colored congregation here, our congregation is directly supporting the work at Bamberg, S. C. Regular contributions are made in support of the Herald of Truth, several Christian orphan homes, and mission work being carried out in Pakistan, Africa and Germany.

-- Please subscribe today --

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Elam's Notes for '22, '24 & '25

Annual Lesson Commentary for

'34, '36, '37, '38, '40, '41, '42, '43, '44

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CAROLINA
MESSENGER OF TRUTH

"THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST SALUTE YOU"

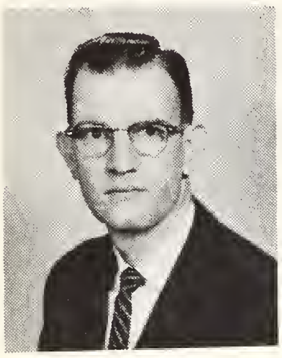
CHURCH OF CHRIST, 433 E. Broad Street, Statesville, N. C.

"THE CHRISTIAN HOME"

April 1963 Volume 5, Number 4

THE CHRISTIAN HOME: *It Will Spare You Many A Heartache*

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS of January 5, 1963 stated: "Marital hitchings and unhitchings last year in Mecklenburg County increased slightly over 1961. There were 1,120 marriage liscenses issued last year... Divorces in 1962 totaled 462, sixteen more than in 1961." Thus, comparing 1962 divorces with marriages, the divorce rate is 41%. This is nothing but tragic! "...from the beginning it hath not been so." How THE CHRISTIAN HOME would have poured oil on the troubled waters of these marriages!

Sociologists tell us that unhappy homes tend to reproduce themselves in the lives of the children that come from those homes. The cycle is vicious! In 1962, 7,600 babies were born in Mecklenburg Co., N. C. What kind of life will they lead? To a sizable extent, the answer can be determined by an examination of the homes into which they were born. Bear in mind that happy home tend to reproduce themselves, too. II Timothy 1:4, 5. This points again to the present need for THE CHRISTIAN HOME.

Legions have said, "The judge let me off probation, but my job was gone. And my wife took the kids and left me--." This would be bad enough if it were unavoidable. How much more pathetic it becomes when one recognizes that all this suffering is useless. It could have been largely alleviated by THE CHRISTIAN HOME.

All the advantages of the Christian life are not in eternity. Many of them are available now. To make your home happy, useful to society, honored in the community--to make the nation strong, to avoid delinquency and heartache--build a CHRISTION HOME! Many have come to this conclusion after their home was broken and their children in trouble--too late! May you come to understand the importance of putting Christ first in your life and home.

Of course, not all non-Christian homes are unhappy, bound for the divorce court, nor are all their children heading for the jail. However, husbands and wives say, after having become Christians, "We thought we were happy before; we just didn't know how much happier we would be as Christians." Jesus can make a bad thing good and a good thing better and often does it through THE CHRISTIAN HOME.

By definition, A Christian Home is one in which all its accountable members have obeyed the gospel and are walking in the footsteps of Jesus in what they do, say, think and in the attitudes they manifest and in the service they render. Galatians 2:20; I Peter 2:21-25. It is a home in which the children are being nurtured in the chastening and admonition of the Lord. Ephesians 6:1-4. It is the home in which Christ is truly crowned as King and Lord!

This special issue on THE CHRISTIAN HOME is presented with the prayer that it will lead you to build the kind of home Christ has in mind for you--with all its attendant blessings.

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THE CHRISTIAN HOME: *Needed By All Nations*

Harold Scott, Statesville, N. C.

"A nation is like a family," says Eric Johnson. "The people in it are happy, healthy and sound when those who lead it exercise responsible, wise judgments. Parents as well as statemen carry heavy burdens." Any nation is the sum total of its homes, for the home is the root system of civilization. As a tree springs from its roots which feed, nourish and provide for its strength so the nation springs from its homes which serve it in the same relationships.

As we consider the functions and duties of a home, the need of a nation for homes where the relationship to God of the responsible individuals in it is Christian, can be clearly seen. First, the home was established that earth might be honorable populated and that there might not be immoral sexual behavior (I Cor. 7:2). The rising tide of divorce, illegitimate births and sexual immorality in our nation and all over the world are evidence of a moral breakdown at the home level. The need for homes which will set and maintain Christian standards of sexual behavior is one of our nations most desperate needs today. The breakdown of previous civilizations came through the breakdown of its homes. (Gibbons, Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire).

The second function of the home is to provide an economic arrangement for the care of the family unit (I Tim. 5:3-11). A Christian father is admonished to provide for his own household lest he deny the faith. A Christian family will also help to provide for "widows and orphans." Cases of real economic need should drop in a community in proportion to the Christian families in it. What effect it would have on our relief rolls and welfare work were all the homes in a nation Christian!

Closely akin to this economic function of the home is this duty of the Christian home: to teach the children the value and joy of work (II Thess. 3:10; I Thess 4:11). This Christian principle would be the foundation of a thrifty, conscientious nation dedicated to working for the necessities of this life but having a true sense of eternal values, realizing that the earth is not permanent thus guarding against a materialistic society.

The teaching of respect for God, Christ and His word is perhaps the primary duty of a Christian home. Crime is a result of a disrespect of authority (the authority of God as vested in parents and civil authority.) Crime begins at home. "A 70% increase took place in the number of cases of Juvenile Delinquency reported between 1948 and 1955. During this same period the child population (7-17 years) increased 16%. Thus the rate of increase of delinquency has exceeded by more than four times the rate of population increase." (Juvenile Delinquency, Kvaraceus, NEA Series).

Recently a survey was made of some 500 families that had produced a delinquent. According to Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck, two Harvard criminologists, 50% of the mothers had criminal records, 62% of the fathers drank. There are more criminals in the 18 year old bracket than any other. These are frightening statistics when we realize that such an increasing segment of our population is being channeled in lawlessness. Evidently our homes have failed in many cases. "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." (Prov. 14:34).

Perhaps at the root of all sin is lack of love. In the Glueck survey 60% of them said that there was no love that now existed between the mother and father. The Christian home provides love and guidance for each of its members, producing an increasing number of citizens of the nation dedicated to producing Christlike personalities in their own lives. Could all homes build the Christian philosophy of love as defined in I Cor. 13, the social strife in

(see page 4)

THE CHRISTIAN HOME: *Every Child Deserves One*

C. N. Womack, Spindale, N. C.

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6) Is this true? Can it be so? Why?

Train - by whom? This directive is given to the parents. Where does training begin? From the child's earliest days. Who should be the best teachers? The parents, yes, because God gave to the parents the right, privilege and opportunity to love their child more than anyone else.

Jesus placed immeasurable emphasis upon the value of a child---"For of such is the Kingdom of God."

When a child is born, he is a living soul that emits innocence, character, purity and love. He is truly a potential as a God-fearing individual for all his days, no matter how many. There he deserves, what will he learn? How to steal - no. How to lie - nay. How to be envious, jealous - never.

Train, to train, training are positive words denoting constructive application. Training a child indicates that he will be taught to be loving, obedient, eager to learn and develop.

Did you ever ponder how many parents are doomed to destruction because they failed their child? Does any child deserve the tag, delinquent? Does any child become delinquent of his own volition? At one time he emmitted innocence, character, purity and love. If he becomes delinquent, he has lacked training. He is God's representative here - he deserves the best. The best is a Christian Home.

Train in the way he should GO. Go where? Go forth to make his way among his fellowman. Go forth to serve his God. Go forth to continue a way of life for which he has been TRAINED.

How long will training last? For when he is old he will not DEPART from it. Then to parents, is it not true that the future of your child depends largely upon you? If the precious thing upon earth, the child, does not deserve the advantages of a Christian Home, then our concept of values must be revamped.

Needed By All Nations, (cont'd)

which we live, exploitation of individuals and races, would cease.

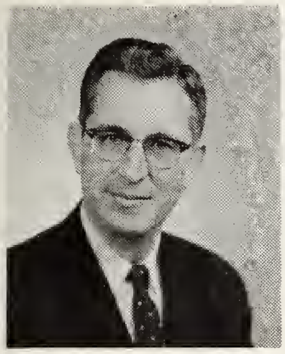
Christian homes will lift a nation toward God for Christianity is designed to change men and nations. It is an interesting fact of history that the Pilgrims, who came from Holland to America for the sake of their children that they might isolate them from influences they believed to be wrong religiously, eventually lost their own children to irreligion and other religions because they confined their influence and teaching to their own kind. They did not try to convert the Indians or the non-pilgrim. Thus the untaught world around the children influenced them to become worldly. Had the Pilgrims sought to convert those surrounding them as well as their own households, their own would likely have remained faithful to the beliefs of their fathers.

Is it true today that Christian homes are not seeking to have the influence on the nation that they could have because they withdraw themselves and refrain from taking part in trying to help make a better nation through more Christian homes?

Surely Christian homes are needed by all nations. Since this is our nation, we must begin here, but surely we must not stop here.

THE CHRISTIAN HOME: *It Just Doesn't Happen*

C. W. Bradley,
Winston-Salem, N. C.



"Please go to 3421 Royalton St. You are desperately needed." This message I heard on the telephone one night.

In a few moments I was ringing the doorbell. The door opened and I met for the first time a man and woman who quickly explained why I was called. They simply had to talk with someone.

For several hours, in the midst of much cursing and swearing, I listened to some of the most cruel and crude language I have ever heard as this husband and wife poured out their bitterness and resentment toward one the other. From all appearances, they literally hated each other. What a pathetic picture to see their 11 year old boy stretch out upon the floor and finally drop off to sleep, perhaps to dream of his parent's turmoil.

From the very beginning of their marriage, there had been incessant fussing and fighting. Now the man declared that the end had been reached. The next day he planned to begin divorce procedures. At 2 A. M. I left for home after finally persuading them to try once more to hold their home together, though frankly, it seemed rather hopeless.

What was the trouble in this home? The problems were many, but heading the list was simply this...here was a home absolutely void of Christ and his Principles. Though one was a Jew and the other a Protestant, on their wedding day, they had felt that everything would work out just beautifully.

Isn't this how all couples feel on their wedding day? Haven't we always heard, "And so they were married and lived happily ever after?" How wonderful if this were true of all who answer, "I do" in the wedding ceremony! Unfortunately, it doesn't just happen to work out this way every time. Thousands who have begun their marriage with a beautiful dream of perfect happiness have come to a state of miserable gloom. "Divorce granted" is heard 1000 times daily in our nation.

There is nothing finer on this earth than a Christian home. Can you name one thing that America needs today more than good Christian homes? Good homes make good communities, good schools, and good churches. Our happiness in this life, our success in life, and our chances for heaven in the life to come depend to a great extent on the kind of homes we have.

But a Christian home doesn't just happen! A personal preperation is essential. In "Christian Courtship and Marriage" E. V. Pullias wrote, "Suppose a young person tells you he plans to make a great and successful doctor. You reply that he has a fine ambition, and immediately ask him how he proposes to prepare himself for such success. The young man replies that he is very sincere, that he plans to begin practicing right away, and that he feels quite sure all will be well. You would be astonished at the young man's lack of insight. Apply this principle to anything you wish from growing a crop to developing a character and the result will be the same: inadequate preparation means failure."

In planning for a Christian home, the greatest personal preparation that one can make is to become a Christian in the days of youth, and then strive diligently to develop the Christian virtues. The habits formed in early years are likely to be part of us in later life. How important to develop such traits as honesty, dependability, patience, kindness, pleasant disposition and a sense of humor. Consideration for others, interest in personal appearance and manners, purity in heart, speech and life, and a respect and willingness for work. Without such personal preparation, there can be no foundation for the building of a Christian home.

A careful choosing of one's life's mate is essential. Surely no choice in life is more important than that which involves the choice of a mate with whom we shall spend the remainder of our life. The right time to make sure is while the opportunity for judgment is still open.

On the wall of our home, when I was a boy, was a calendar which was quite impressive. On it was a picture of a little boy standing on a diving board ready to jump into the cool, clear water, but just in the nick of time, he looked down to see the wide-opened mouth of an alligator waiting for him. Over the picture were words, "Look before you leap." If you want a Christian home, it is so very important to "Look before you leap."

Though you have prepared yourself for marriage, if you choose a non-Christian mate, you may never have a Christian home. True, some become Christians later, but many do not. It's a mighty big chance to take...too big for the person who is determined to have a Christian home.

It is not enough that a person calls himself a Christian. Some who wear the name are counterfeits. Before getting married take time to really learn the person you are dating. See how he conducts himself in various situations. Is he really interested in living for Christ? Does he like to attend worship with you? Is he honest, morally clean, and opposed to alcoholic beverages? Does he assume responsibility? Don't push these things aside.

A definite determination to make yours a Christian home is essential. A Christian home doesn't just happen. It has to be carefully planned and this planning must continue throughout life. Though divorces may not be obtained, yet in many cases, the home becomes a living torment.

As the years go by, many enemies appear to threaten the happiness of even the best homes. Many parents become so absorbed in making a living and a name in the community that they have no time left to make a Christian home. Remember, a Christian home doesn't just happen.

In answer to the question "What is a home?" one little boy answered, "It's where you eat." Another said, "It's where we go between midnight and daylight when everything else is closed."

Elton and Pauline Trueblood in their book, "The Recovery of Family Life," wrote, "We build our lovely houses at great sacrifices and then tolerate meekly the situation in which nearly all the child's waking hours, are spent outside the house." Truly, "It takes a heap of living in a house to make it a home."

Finally, a Christ-centered home is essential. This means if we are to have a Christian home, Christ must be more than a "silent guest;" he must be permitted to control our homes. There is a grave danger that we would separate Christianity from life and make it only a Sunday affair. Together, the members of a Christian home will hear Christ preached on Sunday together, they will see Christ lived in the home every day. It is foolish to talk about a Christian home without giving room for Christ in our homes. A very dear friend of mine, Don Mason of Greensboro, N. C. has expressed it this way:

"There may be many rooms beautifully decorated in exquisite taste. There may be thick luxurious rugs throughout, soft music piped to each room and many baths. There may be a master bedroom, guest rooms, playrooms. But is there room for Christ?

Contrasting this then, picture, if you will, a log cabin on a windswept shore. No rugs on the floor; in fact, no floor except the well-swept earth. No bedrooms, no baths, and no music. One room with a loft above, a large fireplace which serves for heat, cooking and decoration. None of the luxuries and fine appointments.

But, there is room for Christ!

It takes such a little room; for, you see, He abides in your heart before He abides in your home.

Yes, you can always make room for Christ in your home, but first you must make room in your heart."

THE CHRISTIAN HOME: *Each Does His Part*

Carl Lancaster, Greenville, S. C.

Tension steadily increased in the control tower at Hickam Field, Hawaii. The huge globemaster from California was long overdue. Hours passed. It was now certain that the fuel supply had been exhausted. Somewhere the two million dollar plane with 200 men aboard had gone down in the Pacific.

What had gone wrong? The plane had functioned flawlessly. Meticulously trained and experienced, the ground crew, pilot, co-pilot, and flight engineer had each efficiently done his work. But when the plane was 2,000 miles on its way and Hawaii should have appeared on the horizon straight ahead, it didn't. The navigator had carelessly miscalculated. Off course, they had flown over an endless expanse of sea until all fuel was gone.

Millions of dollars in property and 200 lives in jeopardy because one man had not done his part. This true-to-life story shows how vital it is that each person does his duty. In the home it can even be more vital that each does his part. Souls may be jeopardized by one member of the family failing to do his part. Many functions must be performed efficiently for the home to operate successfully. To meet the various needs of the family, God has given different responsibilities to different parties, according to their nature and abilities.

The husband and wife have certain duties toward each other. They are to love each other as they love themselves and as Christ loved the church (Tit. 2:3,4; Eph. 5:25, 28, 29).

One purpose of marriage is that the biological urges of the man and woman may be satisfied apart from immorality (I Cor. 7:2,9). That this might be accomplished, Paul, in a letter to be read in the church, urges that the husband and wife give themselves to each other (I Cor. 7:3-5). The husband's or wife's failure in this regard may drive the marriage partner to seek fulfillment of these natural, God-given desires in an unlawful, adulterous relationship. In such cases both have failed to comply with the Lord's will.

The husband as head of the family is accountable for boty its physical and spiritual welfare (Eph. 5:23; 6:4). The wife is to accept his leadership "even as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him Lord" (ruler) (I Pet. 3:5,6; Eph. 5:22-24). The husband should be careful not to assume the role of dictator but aware of his wife's tender and delicate nature, should treat her as one worthy of esteem (I Pet. 3:7).

Parents have certain grave responsibilities toward their children. A new born infant has no inclination toward good or evil. It is the duty of the parents who have brought this eternal soul into existence to guide it in the proper direction as well as meet its physical needs. The father must provide the necessities of life (I Tim. 5:8). The mother is to be a "Keeper at home" and "guide the house" (Tit. 2:5) I Tim. 5:14). Under normal circumstances the parents more than anyone else, can determine the eternal destiny of their children. With love, understanding and firmness they should train and discipline the children so as to lead them to serve the Lord (Prov. 22:6; 13:24). Parents should be alert to the powerful influence of their example. Jacob's sons deceived him when they brought home Joesph's bloody coat. Jacob, however, had deceived his father, Isaac, to obtain a blessing intended for Esau. Before that Isaac followed the deceptive practice of his father in saying that his wife was his sister! Our actions, whether good or bad, have a way of living on in the lives of our children.

Children have duties, too. They are to respect and be obedient to them (Eph. 5:1-3). As their capabilities increase their duties should increase in a corresponding measure.

A home in which each does his part can

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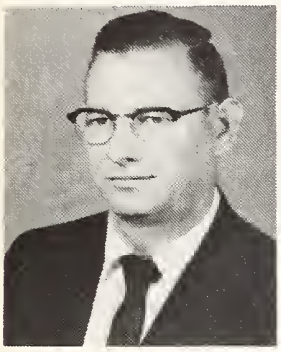
THE CHRISTIAN HOME: *When Trouble Comes*

Virgil Richie, Spartanburg, S. C.



Men do not know by nature or by accident how to build a Christian home. Christian homes are the result of the teaching of God's word and the acceptance of that word in humble submission by all accountable members. When such a home exists, its members are happy and enjoy life to the fullest, as God intended. This is true because the home is very close to the heart of man. During His public ministry, our Master delivered many parables; parables which would have special appeal to special classes, but when He would deliver to us a parable which would reach and move the heart of all people, regardless of race, language or occupation, He gave us the wonderful parable of the Prodigal Son.

It isn't difficult to understand why this parable reaches and moves the heart. This parable is based on home life and if there is any lingering responsive chord in the human heart, it's the one that had to do with the home. Sentiments of the home, as a rule, touch every heart. I read somewhere that during the Civil War, opposing armies were encamped on opposite banks of the river. One army played with a great deal of feeling and spirit, Yankie Doodle. The other answered, with equal animation, with Dixie. Then there was a lull. One of the bands began slowly and deliberately to play Home Sweet Home. The band on the opposite side of the river joined, and their blended melody made all concerned forget the affairs of war, while for the time being they laid down the things of hatred, and their hearts returned to home. Their hearts were melted and softened because they had been touched by the sentiment of home. And thus it is apparent that the irresistible appeal of the parable of the Prodigal Son is to be explained upon the ground that it has to do with the home.

But let no one think that because his home is a Christian home that it is immune to trouble and sorrow. The Bible plainly teaches that we will have tribulations and emphasizes the necessity of being prepared for them. The Savior said on one occasion, "These things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33. Then, as He was concluding the Sermon on the Mount, He said that those who heard and obeyed His words would be able to stand the storms of life. Matt. 7:24-28. Thus we will have tribulation, but in Christ we can find peace in the midst of it and if we build our character on His words, we will be able to withstand trials when they come. In other words, if a home is Christian, it is best fortified against trouble and sorrow.

James deals at length with this theme, showing the purpose of trials and the proper attitude toward them. He wrote, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations (various trials); knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." James 1:2-4. Trials become the testing ground of faith. The proper attitude toward trials: "Count it all joy." James does not say merely to endure your trials, nor does he say to rejoice in spite of them, but to let your trials be the very source of your joy! Joy in trials comes as the result of having borne faithfully. In verse 3 James says, "knowing that the proving of your faith worketh patience." The term "knowing" seems to be used in the sense of recognizing. That is, we should look upon these trials as having a definite purpose in view, namely, the producing of patience, steadfastness, endurance or perseverance. This is exactly the use Paul made of tribulations. "And not only so, but we also rejoice in our tribulations; knowing that tribulations worketh steadfastness; and steadfastness, approvedness, and approvedness, hope..." Romans 5:3, 4.

Troubles or tribulations will manifest themselves in various ways. The most common are loss of possessions, loss of health and loss of loved ones. James tells us how to meet these trials. He says that wisdom is essential and that God, who is the source of wisdom, will give liberally to those who ask Him in faith nothing doubting. James 1:5, 6. Then in chapter 5, he gives us the remedy and examples of those who patiently endured affliction. "Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy." Vs. 10, 11. Then in verses 13-15 he says: "Is any among you afflicted; let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord."

Job is the perfect example of one who suffered the loss of possessions, loved ones, and health and had the proper attitude through it all. One day three messengers came running to Job bearing the news of these calamities. The first said that a band of Sabeans had swooped down on his servants, had slain them and made off with his oxen and asses. The second reported that fire had fallen from heaven, and had burned up his servants and his seven thousand sheep. The third messenger came running to tell him that three bands of Chaldeans had swooped down out of the desert, had slain the drivers with the sword, and had run off all the camels. That meant that all of Job's earthly possessions were gone, gone in a single day!

Job nobly sustained the loss of his property, but a more severe trial awaited him. A man may be rich in this world's goods, but if he has none to love and be loved by, he is a pauper; whereas a man may lose all his property and yet be rich if he have those whom he loves and who love him. Perhaps after he had lost his property Job thought, "I still have seven loyal and devoted sons and three affectionate daughters. They will care for me now, and give me a new start in life." If those were his thoughts, they were shattered by the news which a fourth messenger brought to him. This one told him that his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the home of the eldest son, a whirlwind "smote the four corners of the house" and it fell upon his children and they were dead. When these great calamities fell, "Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground and worshipped, And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Job 1:20, 21.

Job's third trial was the loss of his health. He was smitten with a loathsome disease, "sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown." Removing himself from his home, he sat down among the ashes and scraped himself with a potsherd. Then his wife spoke with him. One can hardly be sure whether she was moved by scorn or by pity for Job. But what she said to him was this: "Dost thou still retain thine integrity" curse God and die." To that Job gave his sublime answer: "What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips." Job 2:9, 10. Job has withstood the third trial, the severe trial of bodily sickness, without flinching, holding fast to God. At the end of these three trials--the loss of property, the loss of family, and the loss of health--Job has proved that God is dearer to him than all else.

Such is the great answer to the ever-present problem of sorrow and suffering. God is to be trusted and obeyed rather than argued with and complained about. The Bi-

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THE CHRISTIAN HOME: *Heaven's Borderland*

Chester Hunnicutt,
Cherokee, N. C.

In 1851 an American was sent as consul to Africa. Died in 1852 was buried in Tunis. In 1883 they dug up his remains and brought his body back to America. The courts took a vacation, including the president on down. Schools closed. All stood with bowed heads. Why? Has this man written any great books, built any great buildings, painted any great pictures, made any famous speeches? None of these. When he was 30 he wrote a song that had been sung around the world, by rich and poor, educated and uneducated, the king and the peasant. This song was Home, Home, Sweet home, be it ever so humble, there is no place like home. This was John Howard Payne.

Jesus said "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother, and be united to his wife, and the two of them shall become one. It is not good for man to live alone. Boys and girls must be careful in selecting a companion. Both should be Christians. One should not risk to convert their companion after marriage. A home that is divided religously cannot be truly happy.

"A man happily married is a successful man even if he fails in other things. If marriage is a failure he is not a successful man even though he succeeds in everything else." W. L. Philips.

A happy home never have the thought of separation. "A family that prays together stays together." The modern home is breaking up in america. One divorce out of three marriages is tragic but we must face facts. A marriage contract is not like other contracts. A business contract is between individuals. Marriage contracts have been drawn up by our heavenly Father and cannot be dissolved by man or state. Never have young people been more interested in love but don't really know what it is. The strongest natural desire of man is food, and drink. The second strongest desire is sexual desire. To make the second virtuous God instituted marriage. Man does not possess a desire which if exercised right that he cannot do if properly used.

At the marriage alter, the wife promises to love, honor and obey her husband. She will be patient, kind and courteous. It will be our children, our home, our money. She will never be glad when he makes a mistake for we are one.

The husband is the head, ruler, provider, protector of the home. He will provide food, shelter, clothing, and protection. He will largely be responsible for their destiny. This cannot be turned over to schools, Bible teachers, or church, although these institutions are great and necessary, they cannot take the place of parential training. In the last day God will not only ask us what we did with our money, time or talents. But where are your children.

The sweetest sounds to mortals are home, heaven, and mother. The career of motherhood is woman's highest calling. To her is given the responsibility of producing another human being. She produces a better product than any factory, farm or plant. Abraham Lincoln said all I am, and all I ever expect to be I owe to my angel mother. The greatest responsibility rests upon the mother. "As is the mother so is the daughter," John Shedd said. Simply having children does not make a mother, no more than having a piano makes a musician. The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother. "An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy." Napoleon. Mothers loves for the sake of loving, and not in order that love might be returned to her.

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ble teaches that life is a probation, a trial, but that the purpose of the trial is always good. After all, there is nothing unique or extraordinary about the sufferings of Job. These trials are repeated from age to age and from day to day. Time brings to all one or more of these trials. Sad to say, some, even Christians will sometimes allow these trials to make them bitter against God and cause them to turn away from Him. Such an attitude is sinful.

The encouraging thing about trials is that they are only temporary. When asked to reveal his favorite passage of scripture one man quoted: "And it came to pass." This came as a surprise to everyone as it is not a complete thought. However, the man insisted that the phrase "and it came to pass" was most meaningful to him. "In every trouble," he explained, "I think of this Bible line. Whatever be the problem however severe the difficulty, it did not come to stay--it came to pass! It came to teach its special lesson, but it was not of itself a finality. It did not come to stay--it came to pass." From all of his trials Job emerged triumphant and so can we. Job's faith and hope were summed up in these words: "He knoweth the way that I take; when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." Job 23:10.

Look not upon the trials of life as something evil and unbearable, but as testings as means to an end; and let that end be the building up of true character. Let every Christian look upon the trials that beset him as an individual, or that beset the church today as a body, with joy--the joy of a conflict which must ultimately end in victory to the faithful. "Now, no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; but afterwards, it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby." Hebrews 12:11. Happy is that man who sees in the inevitable sorrows and reverses of life the hand of his God as did Paul when he wrote: "We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28. Let our homes, then, be Christian homes so that the trials of today will develop character which will stand when the storms come. Matthew 7: 24-28.

EACH DOES HIS PART (cont'd)

be the happiest place on earth and the finest school room there is for life in the heavenly home.

Heavens Borderland (cont'd)

The home is like the church. It doesn't consist of brick, mortar, planks, but the family. It is her duty to make the home pleasant, happy, cheerful and friendly. Mother is needed at home with her children. No mother should work and leave her child to be seen after by one who cares little about their personality or soul, unless she is forced to.

Teach children to "seek first the kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you." When both parents are Christians, and the children become Christians as they become of age; and the whole family practice Christianity instead of talking it, this will be more like heaven on earth. Then if all live a faithful Christian life this home will be transplanted to heaven the eternal home of the soul.

SPARTANBURG, S. C.
Central congregation
Virgil Richie, reporting

Two were baptized here during Feb., one was the husband of a young lady who had just recently been baptized and the other was one of the young men of the congregation.

Seven congregations in the Spartanburg area are cooperating in placing the Walter Burch Ads in the Spartanburg newspapers on a monthly basis. Thus far from the two that have been used, we have received six requests for tracts and Bible correspondence courses. These results are encouraging.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS
Billy Davidson, Editor
Route 6, Box 444
North Charleston, S. C.

THE CHURCH IS GROWING IN CHARLESTON! Before the summer is gone we will have two new buildings in this city. The Riverside church is now in the process of tearing down the old building and construction will begin on the new one about the middle of April. They plan to sell bonds in order to pay for it. If there are any interested persons that would like to invest some money and at the same time help the cause of Christ, contact the Riverside Park church of Christ, Sans Souci and Hester Sts., in Charleston, S. C.

The Folly Beach congregation also plans to build their new building this summer. They are currently meeting in the Community Center out at Folly Beach but their new building will be located on the Savannah Highway. This is Highway 17 that follows the coast and is a much traveled road. We look for and expect big things from this fine church.

The Durant Ave. church in North Charleston continues to grow, also. We have had three to place membership and four restored to their first love in the past month. We are now spending a total of $200 per month for mission work. Our spring meeting begins April 14 with Olan Hicks of High Point, N. C. doing the preaching. We are looking forward to breaking every existing attendance record during this meeting. We have recently started a visiting program and during Jan. and Feb. we recorded some more than 150 visits from the members. We know that there were others that we do not have records on. With the arrival of spring, new life seems to be evident from the members and we look for a pleasant and profitable year for the Lord.

It was my privilege to visit with Bro. Elbert Schory in Georgetown recently. He is doing a fine work and the church is growing. He later sent me the following report. "Since our moving here in the middle of June, 1962, we have had 6 baptisms, 4 restorations and 2 faithful members to move here. However, last year the church lost about 25 regular attendants and some 17 members have moved away. Our membership now stands at about 80. We have just purchased an expensive memeograph machine and have painted the church building."

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Rd. congregation
Carl Lancaster, reporting

A gospel meeting is scheduled here for April 28 - May 5. Billy Davidson of N. Charleston, S. C. is to do the preaching. Services are to be at 7:30.

In the past three weeks five young people have been baptized into Christ. Four families moved away recently because of the scheduled closing of Donaldson AFB. Five other families are scheduled to move within the next month and then three others by the last of June.

Christians from several congregations in this area are working together in planning a dinner and meeting for the teen age college age young people of the area on March 30th.

EASLEY S. C.
W. C. Pruitt, reporting

A series of gospel meetings is scheduled here for May 5 - 14. Services will be at 7:30 each night. J. R. Bailey, Sr. of McMinnville, Tennessee is to do the preaching.

SPARTANBURG, S. C. - Wayman Love will preach at Central May 13-19.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS
Bill Shelton
Box 5424
Raleigh, N. C.

With spring comes much encouraging news and many fine accomplishments among the congregations in the Tar Heel State. Perhaps the finest gleanings from the bulletins received are from Kinston, N. C. The Lord's church in that city exceeded it's goal of 100 for Bible school March 3 when 107 were present. Bro. Sewell, the preacher at Kinston, was named "Civitan of the Year" and we send along our congratulations for this honor. Excellent growth has taken place at Kinston since Jan. 1 with 9 souls being baptized into Christ.

Other encouraging news comes from Wilson where real strides are being made in the building program; Durham, with it's plans to sponsor Bro. Teffeteller in a mission meeting in Greenville, S. C.; Bible Camp; and talk and preparation among all the preachers concerning the 1963 Carolina Lectures, April 1-5, in Union, S. C.

I have been personally encouraged this month by the increase in the number of congregations that have submitted individual reports of their progress. We, of the Messenger Staff, hope that the time will soon come when every congregation in North and South Carolina will desire to be represented in each issue.

There will be many Spring meetings held in North Carolina. The following have been made known: T. A. Isaacs at Raleigh, Neal Penny at Whiteville, Ed Sewell at Kannapolis, Bill Shelton at Westside in Charlotte, Jack Byars at Lexington and Ralph Reeves at Henderson. Check the individual reports in this and future issues for dates of these efforts. Let us pray all that many souls will be brought to Christ in the months ahead.

Though I have already mentioned Carolina Bible Camp, may I add this admonition. This camp is able to operate because dedicated Christians in North and South Carolina are willing to donate their time as counselors, teachers and cooks. As always, there is a need for additional workers. A few of the congregations in N. C. have cooperated well in providing needed personnel. I wonder if you would be willing to give a week, or perhaps two, during August for the training and recreation of our young people? The dates are August 11-24. If you can help, write Johnny Sewell, 2651 Rozzell's Ferry Rd., Charlotte, N. C.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Westside congregation
T. C. Galloway, reporting

Our spring meeting will be April 21-27 with Bill Shelton of Raleigh preaching.

The congregation continues to increase. Our most recent addition was the placing of membership of a young couple who have moved to Charlotte from the northwestern part of the state.

Much investigation and consideration is being carried on over available property in this area. We still have hopes of being able to secure a building lot by the dead line of May 1, 1963.

Our address is 2651 Rozzells Ferry Rd. When in Charlotte, we invite you to worship with us.

TRYON, N. C.
Kenneth Willis, reporting

I am happy to report that another worker may be counted among those now laboring to preach the gospel in North Carolina. On March 1, I moved to Tryon from Newbern, Tennessee to work with the congregation here. I have been preaching for smaller congregations in West Tennessee since completing and even while attending Freed-Hardeman College. Support is continued for the preaching in Tryon by the South Water Avenue congregation in Gallatin, Tennessee and the church in Portland, Tennessee.

Upon coming to Tryon, I was greatly impressed with the faithfulness and the work of preaching and visitation on the part of members here in the absence of a regular minister. Attendance for the past two Lord's Days has averaged 16 for Sunday School, 28 for morning worship and 17 for the evening worship. I understand that attendance is very low now, but that other members may be counted who are unable to attend due to the current flu and other sickness.

I am looking forward to fruitful and rewarding labors with the church in Tryon.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.
South Fork congregation
Carolyn S. Eldridge, reporting

South Fork has enjoyed five very successful years since its beginning in 1958. Average attendance for sunday morning worship has increased from 93 in 1958 to 180 in 1962. A record attendance of 215 was achieved a second time on March 3 of this year. There were 31 additions to the church in 1962-20 baptisms and 11 placing membership. Already in 1963 there have been 6 baptisms.

Average collections for 1963 have exceeded the proposed budget of $550 per week. Fifth Sunday contributions are to go toward a new expansion program.

We are cooperating with the congregations at South Main and Warner's Chapel in presenting the "Herald of Truth" broadcast each Sunday morning at 8:30.

John T. Smithson, Jr. will conduct a meeting for us the week of May 20.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of June 17.

LEXINGTON, N. C.
Walter E. Neal, reporting

Inclement weather and sickness has affected the attendance for the last three months. The attendance will improve with good weather this spring.

Jack Byars, of Kannapolis, N. C., will preach in a series of meetings May 27-June 2. The first week in Oct., Jimmy Cook of Red Boiling Springs, Tennessee will hold a meeting here. These two brethren are giving us these meetings.

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown, reporting

Christians in Valdese cordially invite everyone to worship with us. Sunday morning services are at 10:00 and 11:00, evening services are at 7:00. Great interest is being shown in our Wed. evening service. Our attendance often exceeds Sunday night and sometimes Sunday morning. We now have five classes, having just added the fifth.

Our Feb. averages are as follows: Daily Bible readers 25; Bible classes 39; worship 41; Wednesday 34; contribution $151.

Our church building is being completely repainted and refinished inside. Several of the men are doing the work.

Three new families are worshipping with us, having just moved to this area.

The second Sunday singing for this area was held March 10 at Lenoir, N. C. Seven congregations were represented and the building was almost filled. There was some excellent singing. The next area singing is scheduled in Spindale, N. C. April 14 at 3:00 PM. You are invited to come and praise the Lord in song. The last time the singing was held at Spindale, the building was filled to overflowing, extra seats were used and many standing both inside and outside the building.

JAMESVILLE, N. C.
Jesse W. Carter
Pantego, N. C., reporting

Jamesville, a small congregation located 11 miles east of Williamston, N. C. and 10 miles west of Plymouth, N. C. on U. S. Highway 64, was established around 1946 and up until two years ago made very little progress because of the lack of a full time preacher.

T.A. ISAACS
New Orleans, La.

DON'T MISS...

Preaching at
Brooks and Rosedale
Church of Christ
Raleigh, N.C.

April 28–May 3, 7:30 P.M.

Three young families, interested in the Jamesville area, left their local congregation at Pike Road, N. C. and began working there. Norman Midgett, at this time preaching at Hopewell, Va., secured a three month's leave of absence and came to Jamesville to offer assistance. Beginning full time service in June 1960, Bro. Midgett returned to Hopewell in September and then an all out search for a full time preacher was begun. This was a very difficult task because of the lack of support. A sacrifice was finally made by Bro. and Sis. Thomas M. Daniel of Albany, Ga. in February 1961. Jamesville then began to grow under his labors.

Much progress has been made since a full time preacher began work, especially with the young children. A second hand bus was located for the church to help keep these youn ones coming to church. To day the bus makes regular stops each Lord's Day and mid-week Bible study, picking up those wanting to know the truth in a radius of 15 miles. The attendance grew from nearly 25 to well over 65.

Bro. Daniel terminated his work in Jamesville this past January to accept work elsewhere, and with his great assistance, we located Douglas M. Woodward of Arab, Alabama who began work in February. By his suggestion, a three day gospel meeting was held to introduce him to the church and the area.

ABERDEEN, N. C.
E. C. Lockerman, reporting

We feel that 1962 was a very successful year for the church at Aberdeen. Although we did not have a full time minister, we are very grateful for the blessings received.

We were most fortunate to have J. B. Whitaker, minister of the church at Rockingham, N. C., over 30 miles away, give us wonderful sermons each Sunday afternoon. Since the last of June we have had Ronald Toothman, a service man at Ft. Bragg, speak for our morning service.

Our attendance is: Sunday Bible study, 14; morning worship 20; Sunday afternoon 17; mid-week Bible study 10; contri-

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bution $38.67.

Jan. 1, 1962 our membership was 16. Our membership is now 22.

The Riverside church in Columbia, Tenn. plans to hold a meeting for us beginning July 21 and we are looking forward to it.

We lack support for a full time preacher which we need very badly. We will keep trying to serve our Lord and hold this congregation together. The nearest other congregation is over 30 miles away.

KINSTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, reporting

Since the first of the year the church in Kinston has made some noticeable progress. We thank God, take courage and press on. On March 3 we finally reached our goal of 100 in Bible school when we had 107 present. The following Sunday we again had over 100 present indicating that we may soon make this our average. Our meeting with Jim Bill McInteer in Feb. was well attended reaching a high of 148. The preaching was of the finest calibre but there were no responses. In connection with the "Speak Up for Freedom" campaign of Civitan International, Bro. Sewell delivered talks on Americanism during Feb. and March.

Sewell was recently given the "Civitan of the Year" award by the Kinston Civitan Club. Since the first of the year we have witnessed 9 baptisms here.

Bro. Sewell goes to Kannapolis for a meeting May 19. We plan a VBS in July. Bro. Sewell plans to attend the David Lipscomb College lectures in June and would like to hear from anyone interested in accompanying him.

BOONE, N. C.
D. R. Lumpkin, reporting

Snows and sub-zero temperatures and high wind continued to harass us all through February. It was one of the coldest months on record. In spite of it all, we managed to have a larger attendance and more contribution than we had in January. We are making plans for a spring meeting.

MOCKSVILLE, N. C.
Jericho congregation
Orville L. Midyett, reporting

The work at the Jericho church is most encouraging. The contribution is continuing to go up and attendance and interest are high.

Sunday, March 10, Jericho joined the Main St. congregation in a Sunday morning radio program on station WSDC, Mocksville-time 8:00 till 8:30.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Randall Harley, reporting

In leiu of our regular monthly report, we submit the following report of the missionary activities of the congregation in this city. In recent years the church of Christ at Brooks and Rosedale in Raleigh has been increasing its missionary activities. More than $6,700 was contributed to the promotion of mission congregations during the past two years. Practically all of this amount went to churches in eastern North Carolina. More than two-thirds of it went to support a preacher and to buy a lot for the Bloodworth St. congregation in Raleigh. The remainder was used to help at Whiteville, N. C. and other selected congregations in need of special assistance.

The 1963 plans include continuing support to mission congregations in Raleigh, Whiteville and Henderson. Qualified members will be sent to Henderson until a regular preacher can be secured. A major portion of the 1963 mission budget will go for the new building that is being planned for the Bloodworth St. work.

The most active and comprehensive mission program in the history of the Brooks and Rosedale congregation is being contemplated in the coming years.

JACKSONVILLE, N. C.
August C. Ruff, Reporting

March has been a marching month for the church in Jacksonville. We have had four poeple to obey the gospel and two restorations. We had a record attendance of 159 and a record contribution of $177.50 for 1963.

CAROLINA

MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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- Where Is Your Faith?, Page 8

May, 1963 Volume 5, Number 5

EDITORIAL: MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C.

Industry has long been keenly interested in maximum efficiency. Experts have been employed to help the production plant reach its fullest potential. When will the church "wake up" to this necessary procedure? Is not the Lord's business the greatest business, not only on earth but in heaven?

Is there a congregation anywhere that is operating at maximum efficiency? What is more pathetic, how few congregations have even ever tried to reach their full potential! The following proof statements are often made by the most alert church leaders: "We need to convert the bottom half of the membership." "A large percentage of the giving is done by a small percentage of the membership." "We have entirely too many fringe members." "We have too few who will work." "Only a small number ever try to win souls."

Perhaps many reasons could be given to show why churches of Christ must operate at maximum efficiency but one is sufficient. To "preach the gospel to every creature," maximum efficiency is a must. In fact, to establish the church in the remaining 57 counties of North and South Carolina, not to mention the hundreds of towns, will require it. To make the Carolinas a strong base to send the gospel to all the world will require it.

The major responsibility of reaching maximum efficiency rests upon the elders or those who must lead without elders. Therefore, we offer the following suggestions which we hope will be of some help to you.

1. We believe it is superfluous to prove that maximum efficiency is required of the Lord. If there is any doubt in your mind, we beg of you to study the subject prayerfully and surely you can come to only one conclusion.
2. Take an efficiency inventory. Do not take it of other congregations; take it of the one of which you are a member. Write down in one column what the Lord expects of the congregation (maximum efficiency) and in the other what you are presently doing. For example, suppose the Lord expects 100 members, giving as they are prospered, to contribute $250 each week. But the collection is averaging only $175. Are you not $75 below maximum efficiency? Make the inventory cover as many areas as possible.
3. Set all goals and plans high enough to draw out the full potential of each member plus those you plan to convert during the year. Most members of the Lord's family are like good boys and girls of the earthly family. They are not going to work much unless the parents plan for them to. Do you not "stand around" a piece of work when you can see nothing that needs doing or that you can do? Therefore, please plan by faith and not by sight taking into account the various abilities of the members.
4. Present, in both oral and written forms, all goals, plans and efficiency inventory results to all the congregation. Each member has the right to know what is expected of him.
5. Let periodic announcements be made to the effect that neither the Lord nor his church agrees with inefficient action. A simple announcement that the Lord and his church are not pleased with fringe

(see page 9)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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Three Tribunals Which We Must Face

Leslie G. Thomas, Asheville, N. C.

The text now before us can best be understood by first considering the circumstances under which the letter in which it is found was written. Paul established the church in Corinth, and labored in that city for approximately eighteen months. (Read Acts 18:1-11.) But after his departure from the brethren there, events moved rapidly and they were, on the whole, far from being satisfactory. Factions were formed, and troubles and disorders of various kinds arose and spread throughout the church.

Paul had friends in the church in Corinth, as well as enemies; and it was inevitable that he would continue to be involved, in one way or another, in the internal affairs of the church; and Paul, in absentia, was made the head of one of them. (See 1 Corinthians 1:11-13.) Paul's friends raised him to a degree of authority which he did not claim, nor accept; while his enemies were busily engaged in bringing charges of unfaithfulness against him.

The letter in which the text is found was written to the Corinthians in an effort to correct the sinful conditions into which many of them had fallen, and to furnish them with further instructions for right living. Paul wanted his Corinthian brethren to think of him and his fellow laborers not as heads or leaders of parties, but as servants of Christ and stewards who were dispensening to them the riches of the revelation of God. And he reminded them that it is required in stewards that they be found faithful. It was in this connection that Paul referred to the three tribunals before which all men must stand; and the lesson will be profitable to us, only as we endeavor to apply the principles involved therein to ourselves. Let us begin our study, then, with the first judgment-seat which Paul mentions, namely,

THE TRIBUNAL OF MEN

This court is always in session, and practically every man and woman has a place upon its bench. Every day, year in and year out, people are busy judging each other; and these judgments grow into what we call public opinion. It is from these verdicts that we receive our preferences, our admirations, and our lifelong friendships, as well as our dislikes, our bitter animosities, and our unconquerable antipathies.

This kind of judging may, and often does, degenerate into censorious faultfinding (Matthew 7:1-5); but not all of it does. Much of that which we call public opinion approves the good and condemns the evil. (Cf. John 7:24.) But regardless of the course it may take, this is a powerful tribunal, and most people stand in awe of it. (Read John 12:42, 43.)

But as strong and influential as the court of public opinion is, Paul wanted the Corinthian brethren to know that it does not have the final jurisdiction over God's people. This is true because this tribunal cannot see the heart (cf. 1 Samuel 16:7; Luke 16:15), and, consequently, does not always understand the motives of those who follow God rather than men. In the language of Paul, "We also believe, and therefore also we speak." (2 Corinthians 4:13.) This is the principle that Thoreau had in mind when he said, "If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away." Therefore, when a faithful Christian knows that there is a difference between what God says and what men think, he can, with Paul, say, "It is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judg-

THREE TRIBUNALS (Cont'd)

THE TRIBUNAL OF CONSCIENCE

The judgments of conscience are much more to be desired than the judgments of the world, but they, too, are lacking in final jurisdiction, so far as the child of God is concerned. This is what Paul said about this second tribunal in the text now before us; and he could certainly speak from experience, as his own testimony shows. (Cf. Acts 23:1; 24:16.)

The reason why conscience cannot exercise final jurisdiction over a Christian is that it, in and of itself, never determines that which is right or wrong; that is not the function of conscience, but of the judgment. The conscience merely approves or condemns that which the judgment, that is, the mind or intellect, declares to be right or wrong. If the judgment is in error, then the conscience likewise is in error. It was Paul's judgment that he should persecute Jesus and his people (Acts 9:1-6), and that is why he could do it in all good conscience (1 Timothy 1:12-16).

The fact, however, that conscience is not a safe or final judge does not signify that the court of conscience is not to be respected and heeded. It is, indeed, a tribunal which must be faced by all responsible people. The New Testament clearly teaches that conscientious service must be rendered, if God is to be pleased. (Cf. 1 Timothy 1:5, 19; 1 Peter 3:16.) If one does not maintain a good conscience, moral personality will be destroyed (see 1 Corinthians 8:10f); but as Paul has clearly demonstrated, an approving conscience alone will not suffice. (Cf. 1 John 3:19-21.)

THE TRIBUNAL OF THE LORD

Someone asked Daniel Webster, so the story goes, to name the most profound thought which ever entered his mind, and he promptly replied, the fact that he would have to stand in judgment before the Lord. The present tense of "judgeth" in the text now under consideration indicates that the judgment of the Lord is going on now (cf. 2 Timothy 2:19), but the final judgment will not come until the last day (2 Corinthians 5:10, Revelation 22:12). This means that God, all during our conscious existence, determines whether or not we are pleasing to him; and then at the last day he will give to each one that which is in keeping with his works.

God has ordained that Jesus Christ will be the final judge of all men, when that final day arrives (John 5:22); and the basis of that judgment will be in or according to righteousness (Acts 17:30, 31); the gospel which Paul preached (Romans 2:16); the word which Jesus spoke (John 12:48-50); and that which is contained in the books which shall be opened when the great day comes (Revelation 20:11-15).

Inasmuch, then, as the gospel or the word of the Lord is to be the basis of the Lord's final judgment of us all, the only sensible thing for any of us to do is to do our best to learn that which the Bible, and especially the New Testament (cf. Hebrews 1:1, 2; Acts 3:22, 23), says, and then endeavor to the best of our ability to do it (Matt. 7:21-23). It will do us no good in the final analysis, to rely on either the judgment of public opinion or conscience. Contrast the judgment of the Lord on the following questions: (1) baptism as a condition of salvation from alien sins, Mark 16:15, 16; John 3:5; Galatians 3:26, 27; 1:6-9; (2) the necessity of church membership, 2 Timothy 2:10; Ephesians 5:23; 1:22, 23; Acts 4:12; (3) The time for eating the Lord's supper, 1 Corinthians 11:23-25; Acts 20:7. Which first day of the week? (Cf. Exodus 20:8---which sabbath?) One can do by faith only that which is taught in the Scriptures. (See Romans 10:17; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:3.)

– RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION –

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP: SINGING

Howard Winters, Wilmington, N. C.

Let us take a look at the Bible and see what it teaches us about singing as an act of Christian worship. There are seven passages in the New Testament which deal directly with the subject and a few others that deal with it in an indirect way. The direct passages are Acts 15:25, Romans 15:9, I Corinthians 14:15, Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16, Hebrews 2:12 and James 5:13. Matthew 26:30 and Hebrews 13:15 serve as examples of passages which deal with the subject indirectly. Space forbids the discussion of any in this article except the scriptures which deal with singing directly. Hence, your attention is now invited to a study of the following passages:

1. Heb. 2:12 says, "I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee." Thus, although this passage is a prophecy concerning Christ, we observe that singing is to be done in the midst of the church --the saved, the children of God. Only Christians--the saved, the church--can sing acceptable unto God.

2. In Rom. 15:9 we read, "And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy: as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name." This is another prophecy concerning Christ, but we can learn from it that singing is to be done unto the Lord. That is, the motive for singing is to glorify the Lord's name. We do not sing in worship for our own amusement or pleasure but unto the name of the Lord.

3. Now let us read Acts 16:25. "And at midnight Paul and Silan prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them." Thus singing, when done by a saved person who does it unto the name of the Lord, is "praise unto God." See also Heb. 2:12.

4. Next let us study I Cor. 14:15. It says, "What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also." This passage is often taken out of its context and used in a way farfetched to the mind of the writer. The context shows that Paul is saying, (and I paraphrase)"I will sing as the Spirit directs and I will sing in a language that can be understood." Thus Paul is teaching concerning singing by inspiration and in a tongue--a known language--given by the Spirit. But still the principle of this verse applies to every person who would praise God by singing. We must sing as the Spirit directs us through the Word, and we must sing in a language that can be understood. And it is still true, as this passage is often used erroneously to prove, that our singing must be in spirit--in sincerity or done from the heart. See John 4:24. We must understand what we sing. See I Cor. 14:40. The chief value of this passage on singing is to show us that the Spirit led those to sing who were inspired, and it also enabled them, when necessary, to sing in a language that could be understood. And in this way it shows us that singing was a part of New Testament worship.

5. Next, your attention is called to Eph. 5:19. "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." Three important things are learned about singing in this verse: (1) We are to speak one to another in our singing. (2) Our singing is to be that of psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. (3) In singing we are to make melody in our heart unto the Lord.

6. Our attention is now turned to Col.3:16, which says, "Let the word of Christ

SINGING (Cont'd)

dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." We learn two things from this passage: (1) We teach and admonish one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. (2) We are "singing with grace in our hearts to the Lord."

7. Our final passage for study reads. "Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms." (James 5:13.) This gives the reason for singing--let him that is merry sing. Christians are merry--they have something to sing about. It seems to me that singing should be more spontaneous than formal--it should be an expression of the praise or devotion of the heart to God. "Is any merry? let him sing."

Thus, the Bible teaches Christians to sing. And singing is something that every Christian can do a little of. But singing is more than a command; it is a means of expressing our devotion to God. Let us be thankful that we can sing praise to his name! Yea, more, let us sing praise to his name!

A HOBO'S LETTER

Elbert Schory, Jr., Georgetown, S. C.

Following is a letter written by a hobo who spent the night in the church building in Georgetown, S. C. while it was snowing outside. It made the front page in the local newspaper.

"An open letter to the minister and congregation:

"Tonight your church provided me with warmth and shelter. It is snowing outside and I came in to avoid the storm. I

HOBO'S LETTER (Cont'd)

gained entrance through the rear door, which I found unlocked. (Please forgive me for entering as a thief, but it was the only way to gain a haven of warmth.)

"I entered the sanctuary and found the attached list of scriptures (on the tongue, EAS). Being in want of something to do, I read them, and they have led me to write this letter.

"The scriptures are quite good and I applaud the compiler. He should be congratulated for the insight and thought he showed. They have led me to stop and consider my life, and I have decided the adventure of the open road is mild indeed to the adventure and challenge of a good life. I have considered the almost inevitable future for me as I exist today and have compared it to the future as a follower of the ways of the Lord. There is no comparison.

"I write to influence the younger people, not to gain praise. There are many children and young adults who contemplate a free-wheeling, devil-go-quickly type of existence. May I endeavor to tell them the choice they must make and save them the pain of finding out for themselves what I realized in an unoccupied church in a strange town.

"I have worked my way across these glorious states three times now and still have failed to find what I've sought. I have worked rodeos in Palo Alto, California; I have harvested peas in Washington State; I have driven the combines of Kansas; and now I approach my home once again to join the human race.

"I am but twenty-four years old, and I feel young enough to start over and succeed, but I would not wish my existence on the most foolhardy young man in the world.

"I see the wind is dying now, so I must attempt a farewell. I do not know how to

(see page 9)

Memo: Order a directory now!

– DIRECTORY –

Churches of Christ

North Carolina

South Carolina

1963

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Mr. Bill G. Smith
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Valdese, N. C.

Where Is Your Faith?

C. E. Mannon, Greenville, N. C.

During the personal ministry of Jesus, he was "approved of God...by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him..." (Acts 2:22) Many of these mighty works are written that we "might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing we might have life through his name." (John 20:31) Three gospel writers record the miracle of Jesus' calming the tempest on Galilee. (Matt. 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25) Like all other miracles Jesus performed, this one impresses us with the greatness of God's power working through his Son. That Jesus was able to rebuke the wind and the raging of the water so that there was a calm gives unmistakable evidence of the divine sanction attending his mission among men. With Nicodemus, "we know that thou (Christ) art a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him." (John 3:2) Let those now claiming to reproduce the miracles of Christ set a "storm-stopping" campaign, thereby establishing their teachings as coming from God. Until these have been successful, we are obligated to continue emphasizing the temporary and confirmatory nature of miracles (1 Cor. 13:10; Heb. 2:3-4) while exposing the fraudulent claims of religious imposters. (2 Tim. 4:2).

But now to the question before us. In Luke's inspired record of this miracle, Jesus is quoted as asking his terrified diciples: "Where is your faith?" (Luke 8:25) In the varied scenes of life and with the preplexing problems that confront men this question is always in order. Are you one whose days have known many storms? Are you dismayed and perplexed at problems that seem to weigh heavily upon you? Are you a victim of fear and pessimism with the knowledge that weapons of carnal warfare are becoming more powerful with the possibility of total destruction in another conflict among nations. Does sin trouble you? Are you concerned about your soul and the eternity to which we all are so rapidly passing? If your answer to these questions is yes, then where is your faith? Have you not yet made your faith a way of life? Do you not know that all the interests of heaven are directed toward the welfare of man for time and eternity? God has spoken (Heb. 1:1-2). The Bible is God's word. (2 Tim. 3:16-17) Faith comes by hearing the word of God. (Rom. 10:17) By this faith, the heart believes on Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of the world. (Rom. 10:10) By this faith, one is priviledged to repent of every sin and to be immersed into Christ. (Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:26-27) Without this faith it is impossible to please God. (Heb. 11:6) Without this faith, one cannot become a child of God--a member of the Lord's church. (Rom. 8:16; 1 Cor. 12:13) One who is not a child of God is already condemned. (John 3:18; Mark 16:16)

As a child of God, are you happy in His service? Do you rejoice to worship with the saints at the appointed time and in the Lord's appointed way? Is the kingdom of God first in your life? Are you willing to forgive and to suffer wrong? Do you consider that your time, talent, and gold is a trust committed to you by God unto whom you are responsible as steward? Are you persuaded that all things work together for good to them that love God? If today were the end of the world, would all be well with your soul? If your answer to these questions is no, then where is your faith? (2 Cor. 5:7; Rom. 1:17) This is that trust that takes God at his word, to do what he has commanded, simply because he has spoken! While others draw back because they cannot "see why," heroes of faith move forward, growing ex-

Where Is Your Faith? (Cont'd)

ceedingly, abounding in love, and rejoicing in hope. This faith brings joy to our hearts and peace to our souls. (Phil. 4:7) This faith does not hesitate to exalt Christ and his church in word and deed. (Col. 3:17) Faith is that firm conviction leading us to sow bountifully with the full assurance that we shall reap bountifully. (2 Cor. 9:6) It is that unshaken belief that while the Christian life is the most practical and best of this earth, there yet remains beyond time a destiny more real than a dreamless sleep. (Rom. 2:7) With the sustaining conviction that we shall receive the end of our faith the eternal salvation of our souls (1 Peter 1:9), we press on unto the brightness of that more perfect day. Faith affirms that "to live is Christ and to die is gain." (Phil. 1:21) Where is your faith?

Maximum Efficiency (Cont'd)

members will help. Do not make the preacher the scapegoat for all these announcements. Let faithful brethren, who are good examples, take turns putting the "righteous persuasion" on.

May the Lord help each congregation to reach maximum efficiency. Why not begin now to make plans to reach this all-important goal?

Hobo's Letter (Cont'd)

proceed wishing farewell to a hundred faces I've never seen, but I will attempt.

"Thank you dear people... Thank you very much indeed. You have helped a many find the right trail in a wilderness of blind alleys and false turns... "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death..."

---Bob

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Westside Congregation
Thamer C. Galloway, reporting

The Westside church set a new attendance record with 167 present for Sunday morning worship April 15. We had previously set a goal of 140 for that Sunday and went over the goal by 27. We are indeed grateful for this growth and hope and pray that it will continue.

DUNCAN, S. C.

Gordon Teffeteller of Durham, N. C. will hold a meeting in Duncan, S. C. May 5-12. Services will be at 7:30 each evening. You are cordially invited to attend.

ROCKINGHAM, N. C.

The 1964 CAROLINA LECTURES are scheduled to be in Rockingham April 6-10. We hope to keep you informed each month as we make plans for the Lectureship.

We invite any suggestions you might have which would help improve the Lectureship. We solicit the cooperation of every preacher in both Carolinas. We are hoping to have every preacher present and willing to participate in the program. Below is a list of new activities which we hope will add much to the Lectureship next year.

1. A period of singing instruction and practice each evening.
2. Classes for the improvement of the Bible School.
3. Special morning and afternoon classes for the ladies.
4. An open forum each afternoon.
5. A period for reports on newer and smaller works in the two states.
6. A lively panel discussion each night followed by one lecture.
7. A fellowship dinner on Thursday night. (Goal of 300).

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CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

BILL SHELTON, *N.C. News Editor* BILLY DAVIDSON, *S.C. News Editor*

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

Billy Davidson, Editor
Route 6, Box 444
North Charleston, S. C.

ATTENTION SOUTH CAROLINA!

Burl Curtis

What is happening to South Carolina? Are the churches busy in this state? Why so few reports from S. C.?

We believe S. C. churches are busy and have many interesting things to report. Billy Davidson would very much like to have your reports or your bulletins. S. C. needs to let its light shine. We received only 6 reports from S. C. in January and February; only 2 in March and 4 in April. As many as 15 are received from N. C. in one month. Let's have S. C. better represented!

Why not select some qualified man or woman from the congregation to be responsible for sending news reports? Mail them to Billy Davidson by the 15th. of each month.

CHARLESTON, S. C.

Durant Avenue Congregation

As this is being written the Durant Ave. church in North Charleston is engaged in a gospel meeting with Olan Hicks doing the preaching. The preaching is excellent but the attendance has not come up to our expectations. On the first day of the meeting, April 14, we established a new record in attendance with 347 coming for worship. In the past six weeks we have had 11 restorations and 3 baptisms. We are buying a large house adjoining the church property which will give us 6 additional class-rooms. With the arrival of the Polaris submarine squadran, we expect to have our facilities filled to capacity.

CHARLESTON, S. C.

Riverside Congregation

The Riverside church in Charleston is now in the process of erecting a new building. They are selling bonds to finance this project. If you are interested in investing money that will return 6 per cent interest, contact this writer and I will put you in touch with these brethren.

CHARLESTON, S. C.

Essex Village Congregation

The congregation known as the Folly Beach church has moved and have changed names. They are known as the Essex Village church. They are now meeting in a theatre which is near to the lot where they will be building their new building. They plan to build this summer.

AIKEN, S. C.

Good news came the other day in the form of a letter from Richard Walker in Bradford, Tenn. Richard will be moving to Aiken, S. C. sometime around June 1 to work with the church. Richard is a young man and I know that he will mean much to the cause of Christ in South Carolina. He is presently preaching in my home town.

UNION, S. C.

Milton Parker, Reporting

May we take this means of thanking everyone who had a part in making the Lectureship one of the greatest events in the history of this congregation. Among those attending were 56 preachers; 43 spoke during the week. Surely, no more dedicated group of gospel preachers can be found than those of the two Carolinas. Interest in the local work is at an all time

UNION, S. C. (Cont'd)

high. We have the highest budget in the history of this congregation and at present the contributions are exceeding the budget. I want to say on the part of the membership here that they could not have done a better job in preparing and working; the lectures were everything we had hoped for. Our lives have been made richer and fuller and I know we can do a better work because of this fellowship.

GEORGETOWN, S. C.

The church in Georgetown recently concluded a meeting with Brother Glenn Killom of Cookeville, Tenn. doing the preaching. I haven't heard of the visible results of the meeting, but am sure that it was a great success. Elbert Schory, Jr. is the capable preacher at Georgetown.

BARNWELL, S. C.
Luther A. Atkinson, Reporting

Our average attendance on Lord's Day mornings is from 50 to 55 and from 40 to 50 for the evening services. Wednesday night about 40. We have a six day a week radio program at 11:00 a. m. and on Sunday at 10:00 a. m. Brother W. G. Gantt of West Columbia, S. C. is to conduct our meeting beginning Monday night May 20 and going through the following Sunday. All are invited to attend.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Northeast Congregation
Burl Curtis, Reporting

During April we have had two responses to the invitation, one baptism and one confession of wrong.

Our meeting with Gordon Teffeteller was joy and a rewarding experience. Gordon did an admirable job in the preaching and our thanks goes to the Durham church for

GREENVILLE, S. C. (Cont'd)

sending him to conduct it. Northeast selected one of the members, Billy Bargatze, to come up with suggestions for the meeting. He asked each member to write about 10 letters to friends and other members in the area in addition to oral invitations and other means of advertizing. Consequently, the meeting was the best attended one we have had. One hundred twenty-one were present the first night and we averaged 97 for each service.

We are thankful to the Lord for the progress we have made toward the goal of completely paying for our building lot in 1963.

If you are in the Greenville area, please visit us in the U. C. T. Building, Greenacre Road (near Plesantburg). Sunday evening services are at 6:00 p. m.

CHURCH BEGINS IN GAFFNEY, S. C.

On May 5th the church of Christ met for the first time in Gaffney, S. C. This is the only congregation in Cherokee County which has a population of 35, 205. There remains 18 counties in S. C. with no congregation.

Gaffney is the county seat of Cherokee County and as far as is known there has never before been a gospel sermon preached within its boundary. The church began with about 5 members who will soon be joined by Marvin Bryant and his family.

Two Episcopal buildings, consisting of a church building with a seating capacity of 100 and an educational building have been purchased on credit for $7, 500.

Brother Marvin F. Bryant, formerly a Presbyterian preacher, is planning to move to Gaffney to preach and work with this new congregation. He has a wife and

CHURCH BEGINS (Cont'd)

five children. Bro. Bryant is encouraged in this work by the Panama St. church of Christ in Montgomery, Ala. by whom he will be partially supported.

BLUE RIDGE ENCAMPMENT
J. W. Brents
Nashville, Tennessee

This great encampment will open Monday evening June 24 and continue four days. For bewitching scenery, "the land of the skies," for climate, boating, mountain climbing, for swimming it has all for which one might hope. The great crowds who attend from year to year give evidence to all of this.

Above all this, there is the Christian environment. There will be Bible classes for all ages headed by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie G. Thomas unexcelled as teachers.

Such men as J. M. Powell, A. R. Holton, B. C. Goodpasture, Gus Nichols and many others who will deliver heart warming lectures from day to day are on program. There will also be present scores of young men from the Carolinas who will tell of the great work they are doing in those mission fields.

For reservations write Miss Eva Emmons, 1726 Hillmont Drive, Nashville 12, Tennessee.

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP
Johnny Sewell

We are now in the process of securing volunteer personnel to work in the 1963 Carolina Bible Camp which will be conducted August 11-24 at Camp Hanes near Winston-Salem, N. C. Letters have already been mailed to those who have served at camp in the past, whose addresses we have, inviting them to serve again. It may be that we did not have your address and, therefore, no letter was mailed to you. Or it could be that you, a faithful Christian interested in young people, have not been to camp before as a teacher, counselot, handicraft or athletic worker, but would like to come to camp this year. If you are in either of the above groups, we would like very much to hear from you. Please write: Johnny C. Sewell, Director, P. O. Box 26212, Derita Branch, Charlotte 6, N. C.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS
Bill Shelton
Box 5424
Raleigh, N. C.

Perhaps the most edifying and encouraging thing that has occured in North and South Carolina since last month's report was the Carolina Lectures at Union, S. C. Bro. Parker and the Elders at Union have certainly won the respect and gratitude of the preachers in these two states for the planning that made this lectureship a success. Those of us who stayed with Christian families at Union are truly indebted to them for their wonderful hospitality. The lessons presented were most edifying and everyone who attended was convinced that the work in this area does not suffer because of a lack of talented and visionary preachers.

As was true last month, Gospel Meetings dominate the news from North Carolina. Goldsboro, Whiteville, Greensboro and many other congregations in the state have already closed successful efforts. Raleigh, Westside and The Plaza in Charlotte, as well as others, will complete their efforts before this issue goes to press.

GREENVILLE, N. C.

The following items of interest and en-

GREENVILLE, N. C. (Cont'd)

couragement have been gleaned from bulletins across the state. Greenville has witnessed three baptisms and one to place membership in the last three months. Another historic step toward a permanent work in that city came on March 28 when the last signatures were affixed to those documents necessary to building a preacher's home. This home is now being constructed on the lot provided for such across the street from the church building. Completion is expected June 15. Permanent sidewalks and a growing lawn now adorn the building in Greenville.

WILSON, STATESVILLE AND ALBEMARLE, N. C.

Latest reports from Wilson indicate that the building program has reached the "wall building" stage. Bro. Harold Scott of Statesville has made a number of trips to surrounding cities to report on the New Zealand campaign. Albemarle reports attendance of 30 at services with an active visitation program underway.

As you will see from these remarks and the following individual reports, the Lord's people are at work in North Carolina. May God help us to keep the spirit of optimism and vision to complete our plans for the future. The work is difficult, but the results are so far reaching.

GOLDSBORO, N. C.
Ray Fullerton, Reporting

The church in Goldsboro has a meeting April 8-14 with Ken Samuel of Jeffersonville, Indiana doing the preaching. The members are endeavoring to increase their efforts in the field of personal evangelism and a number of cottage meetings are underway. In 1962 we baptized 10 persons and this represented a ratio of 10 to 1; it took 10 members to baptize one person and we do not feel this is adequate. Churches in the Carolinas should be baptizing more people than they are. One has been baptized here this year; three have placed membership and two have been restored. Our membership is down due to Air Force losses. I will preach the Baccalaureate Sermon for the Goldsboro High School graduation exercises this year. Plans for the Edinburgh, Scotland, campaign are gradually materializing. All are urged to remember this effort in their prayers.

JACKSONVILLE, N. C.
August C. Ruff, Reporting

Our spring meeting was held April 14-21 by Arlin Chapman from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. A record attendance and contribution was set in March.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Dilworth Congregation
Calvin L. Bennett, Reporting

For over two years the Dilworth congregation has conducted the "Know Your Bible" radio program over station WAYS in Charlotte, and on January 27 we began broadcasting our Sunday morning service. The entire service is broadcast so that the listeners may know exactly how the members of the Lord's body worship. It is hoped that both programs can be continued because many favorable comments have been received. In order that we might more accurately evaluate the effectiveness of the two programs, we would like to hear from those in the brotherhood that have heard either one.

The work here is progressing nicely, and the results of personal work is in evidence at each service. Last Sunday, March 24, there were one hundred thirty-two at the morning service. This set a new record

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (Cont'd)

which we hope will be broken soon. Also, Jack Byars who preaches for the church at Kannapolis, N. C. brought us a fine lesson Sunday evening. Bro. Sam Norman was in Kannapolis preaching for the brethren there. One was baptized Sunday, Mar. 17, and three placed membership. This makes a total of six since January that have begun work with the Dilworth congregation. I have been in Charlotte only a short time and am much impressed with the attitude of the congregations in the Charlotte area towards each other. If the brotherly love that has made itself manifest since my arrival here continues, the church will grow beyond the expectations of all of us.

The Dilworth congregation meets at 301 Greystone Road, just off the 3100 block South Boulevard, which is U. S. 21.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Virgil Hale, Reporting

March was the best month that the church here in Whiteville has ever experienced. There were seven baptisms and one restoration during the month. Not only this, but new records were set in attendance, also.

The Fanning Heights congregation in Huntsville, Alabama send Bro. Neal Penny from Milan, Tennessee, here for a meeting which started on March 24 and continued through March 31. Bro. Penny did some outstanding preaching in the meeting, and his influence will certainly be felt for a long time. The meeting resulted in five baptisms and one restoration. There were two baptisms the Sunday before the meeting started. Four of the five who were baptized were members of the Baptist church. The other was not a member of any church and is the wife of the man who obeyed the gospel. We had worked with these people for some time, and all of them had seen the film strips in their home.

WHITEVILLE, N. C. (Cont'd)

Our record attendance before the meeting was 78. This number was exceeded the very first service of the meeting when we had 81. On Tuesday night we had 91 and on Friday night 96. Attendance averaged 80 for every service. The last Sunday morning we had 85 and that night 87. More local people attended this meeting than ever before, and many of them said that they plan to continue coming. We feel that we have some good prospects to work with as a result of this effort.

BRYSON CITY, N. C.
Carlton W. Elkins, Reporting

I did the preaching for the first in a series of three-day meetings for the year, April 19-21. We have other meetings tentatively scheduled for July and October.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Westside Congregation
Thamer Galloway, Reporting

Since our last report, the work here has continued to progress with much enthusiasm on the part of the membership. Our Spring meeting with Bill Shelton of Raleigh will be conducted each evening April 21 through April 28. We are looking forward to our first Gospel Meeting since we began meeting last May. During March we had 4 baptisms and 4 members of the church restored. This brings the total to 12 additions since January 1.

We are still looking for a suitable building lot with great hopes for reaching our self-set goal of May 1. Many goals have previously been set and reached. During March a record contribution was made of $318. On April 7, the evening attendance record was broken with 90 present.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (Cont'd)

We're always delighted to have visitors. When you're in Charlotte, worship with us at 2651 Rozell's Ferry Road.

ALEXANDER, N. C.
Red Oak Congregation
Mrs. Carl Hunter, Reporting

Red Oak church of Christ attendance has been steady for the morning service but percentage drops considerable at the night service. Brethren Carl Hyder and E. G. Keer do a good job in presenting the true gospel for us.

Bro. Leslie G. Thomas of Asheville will hold us a meeting the second week of June. We are looking forward to his edifying sermons. We cordially invite members of the church, who are close enough, to visit us during this meeting.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Cape Fear Congregation
B. G. Langston, Reporting

The first Sunday in April marked the beginning of the second year for the Cape Fear congregation. This first year has seen 8 baptisms, 10 restorations and 29 to place membership. During the year we averaged 53 in attendance for Bible School, 70 for morning worship, 52 for evening worship and 46 for Wednesday night. The past two Lord's days have been record breakers with 109 and 110 present for morning worship. Enthusiasm has never been greater among the membership.

WOODLEAF, N. C.
Cornith Congregation
J. N. Roberts, Reporting

The work is slow here, however, we have very good attendance for a country congregation. We need more vision, we need to commit ourselves more and we need more cooperation among the brethren.

Last year we had 100 on the roll for VBS and we are expecting a larger attendance this year. There are a lot of children and young people in this community.

Bro. Qualls will soon complete four years with the church here. He has done a good work. The church needs a lot of equipment such as a mimeograph machine and tape recorder.

Our young people are planning to have a Bible Quiz Program in the near future. Their plans are to conduct this program like the G. E. Television program and use only Bible questions.

The church here is in the process of pouring the basement floor in the new building. We were made to rejoice recently when three young ladies came forward and confessed error. We are presently conducting a teacher training program on Wed. night in an effort to better fit ourselves to teach others.

We are looking forward to our meeting with J. B. Whitaker of Rockingham in July. The prospects look bright for 1963 for the completion of our building. We lack pews and a heating plant but we are still hoping to complete the building by fall. We want to make 1963 the best year in the history of the church here.

The ladies plan to begin a Ladies Bible Class nad work program in the near future.

Harold Scott of Statesville came one Thursday evening recently and reported on the New Zealand campaign.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. (I Cor. 15:58.)

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Volume 5, Number 6 June, 1963

EDITORIAL: BLUE RIDGE ENCAMPMENT

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C.

Within a few days a number of outstanding speakers will be in the Carolinas, The occasion will be the Blue Ridge Encampment conducted June 24 through 28 near Asheville, N. C. Some of the well-known speakers will be A. R. Holton, Gus Nichols Leslie G. Thomas (from Asheville, N. C.), J. M. Powell, B. C. Goodpasture, Ira North and Carroll Ellis, Why not make an extra effort to hear these men?

Every morning Gus Nichols will conduct the "Bible Questions and Answers" period again this year at the Encampment. His knowledge and experience should make this a profitable period.

In addition, the morning sessions will include Chapel with A. R. Holton speaking. Brother Holton has recently returned from Korea where he has been engaged in mission work for the past several years. Also, Bro. and Sis. Leslie G. Thomas will teach classes each morning. The subject of Sis. Thomas' class will be, "Some Important but Overlooked Lessons from Paul and John." Many in this area personally know Brother and Sister Thomas and will be eager to study with them again.

J. M. Powell will show colored slides of his nine week tour of Bible Lands during the summer of 1962 each evening at 7 P. M.

Evening activities continue at 8 P. M. with the Theme: Restoring New Testament Christianity. The schedule is as follows:

Monday: Clarence Deloach, Chattanooga Tennessee. "Aims of the Restoration Movement."

Tuesday: Carroll Ellis, Nashville, Tennessee. "The Type of Preaching That Characterized the Restoration Movement of the 19th Century."

Wednesday: J. T. Hodgen, Frankfort, Kentucky. "Things That Need to be Restored in Our Time."

Thursday: Ira North, Madison, Tenn. "The Beauty and Glory of the Restoration Movement."

Evening sessions will conclude with "Fire-Side Chats" in Lee Hall at 10 P. M. with B. C. Goodpasture discussing key men connected with the Restoration Movement.

Wednesday will be a day close to the hearts of all Christians in the Carolinas because it has been named "Leslie G. Thomas" at Blue Ridge Encampment. We are without information as to the special activities of this day except that honor and respect will be paid to Bro. Thomas. Would it not be very fitting if many of the Carolinas preachers could be present for this day? We believe that it would be very much appreciated by Bro. and Sis. Thomas.

Underlaying Purpose of Encampment

Several years ago we understood that the

(see page 6)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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YOUNG PEOPLE: A CHALLENGE

Waymon Love, Spindale, N. C.

Today we are living in a world that differs a great deal from the world of yesterday. Furthermore, the world of tomorrow will differ from today's world. We live in a sea of continual change. Nations rise and fall. The flowers, which we admire so much, will fade after they have bloomed. Even the hills grow old. In sharp contrast to the things that are made, God, the Eternal, remains changeless throughout the ages. In him there is no variableness, neither shadow that is cast by turning.

Since God does not change, there certainly is no need for our faith in him to change. Jude admonished, "Contend earnestly for the faith, once (and for all) delivered to the saints." With this unchanging object of our faith there is no need for a change of faith.

But, wherever there is progress, there must be a change. Once we were babies but by and by we change into men. What is education but a series of changes with relationship to knowledge. Then, too, spiritual growth is a change from faith unto faith, but is not a change of faith. Spiritual growth indicates a change of our relationship to the divine.

There are many causes that have claimed the attention, and loyalty of men. Some of them are good, others not so good. Young people of today need a cause for which to live. True, we need patriotism but that does not provide sufficient satisfaction of this need. A social or moral cause does not fully provide for this need of youth. What does? ONLY CHRISTIANITY! That cause has every right to demand of young people undying, life-long loyalty.

Today we need the faith that can hold us secure from the dangers that lurk all about us. Nothing can shake the soul that is possessed of an unshaken faith.

Youth of today need to develop within themselves the ability to control themselves. Children who do things when they are out of sight of their parents are restrained from evil only by external force. On the other hand, the one who is taught self control can be safely trusted to conduct himself with honor under any condition.

Many today who cannot control themselves make it necessary for society to place bars and walls, or other external restraints about them. Real freedom is the substitution of internal for external restraints.

We also need to be challenged to think. We live in a modern, mechanical age of high-speed and mass production. As a result of this we have developed a tendency to let someone else do our thinking and are plagued with a lot of unfruitful living.

The tempo of our lives is such that we feel we do not have time to think. But we do have time to think. We must! Never a greater truth was spoken than: "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." The great masses of folk who do not think are like the dumb cattle who follow the few who do.

In view of this we are forced to conclude that the reason ten percent of people of the United States own ninety percent of the wealth is because ten percent of the people do ninety percent of the thinking.

You know, God's emphasis has always been on the individual. The Bible is God's book to the individual. The expressions "whosoever will" and "let each one of you" prove this beyond any doubt. May we, through this page challenge the young people of the Carolinas to develop and assert your own individuality. It will be well worth all the effort you put into it.

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP: PRAYER

Howard Winters,
Wilmington, N. C.

One night our telephone rang and, as usual, my wife answered. She called out and said that it was for me. I laid down the book I was reading and picked up the receiver. "Hello," I said. Very quickly a troubled voice answered, "I want you to remember me in your prayers tonight."

"I surely will," I replied, "but who are you?"

"I had rather not say," said the voice, "but I want you to remember me tonight in your prayers." Again I assured him that I would and asked if there was anything else that I could do for him. "Just pray," he said. Then the phone clicked. He had hung up.

I will probably never know who this strange caller was or what kind of trouble he may have been in or the problem that he may have had. But God knows! And I feel sure that whoever he may have been, or whatever may have been the cause of this call, he realized that there is power in prayer. He felt sure that God could help and that Christians could pray. Even though his name to me is anonymous, and I know not whether my prayer served the purpose he wanted it to or not, he made me thankful that I am a child of God--that I can pray, and that others, even when not Christians themselves, realize that "the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16).

WHAT PRAYER IS NOT

Prayer is a Christian's privilege, and every child of God can boldly go before the throne of God's grace and make his petition known. But I fear that we often abuse prayer; sometimes because we do not know what it is, but more often, I think, because we do not know what it is not.

1. Prayer is not a means of bringing destruction on others. Near where I was reared, a preacher came to a small town to hold a protracted meeting. But only a few people came to hear him. He became discouraged in a short time and closed the meeting. But before he left town he prayed, "Lord send fire down from heaven and destroy this wicked town." This was a prayer of destruction. It was not heard. This reminds me of what our Savior said when certain of his disciples wanted to call fire down on some who followed them not. Jesus said, "Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of." (See Luke 9: 54-56.)

2. Prayer is not a means of informing God of our own goodness and of the weakness and shortcomings of our fellowman. The Pharisee, as recorded in Luke 18:9-14, made this mistake. He said, "God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess." But the publican prayed, "God be merciful to me a sinner." Jesus said, "I tell you, this man (the publican) went down to his house justified rather than the other (the Pharisee)."

3. Prayer is not an ultimatum. I am thinking of a man whom I have heard pray in typical sectarian style, many times, saying, "Lord if you will do this for me I will pray, I will preach, I will sing, I will shout, I will do whatever you want me to do." The attitude behind such a prayer is, "If you do not do this for me Lord, then do not count on me to do anything for you." "I want this or else" has hindered many a prayer. We must not demand of God, but ask of Him. When prayer is made an ultimatum it goes unheard. Man is in no position to bargain with God.

4. Prayer will not change the law of God. Suppose I should pray to God to permit me to hit my finger with a hammer without feeling pain. My prayer would be amiss. But that is ridiculous, you say. Certainly it is, but no more ridiculous than for one to pray for God to save him apart from the plan of salvation--apart from what the Lord has told him to do to be saved. Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." (Mark 16:16). All the prayers of all the ages cannot sidetrack these conditions upon which salvation is made to depend. Hence, if one wants to be saved, he must do what the Lord has commanded him to do. Prayer cannot change the law of God.

Conditions of Acceptable Prayer

Prayer is the supplication, the intercession, and the thanksgiving of a Christian heart made known to God in the divinely appointed way, for the divinely appointed end, and for the divinely appointed purpose. Thus before it can be answered:

1. Prayer must be in faith. James 1:6-7. And since faith comes by hearing the word of God, (rom. 10:17,) prayer must be in harmony with what the Bible teaches. Prayers are just words beating the air unless prayed in accordance with heaven's will.

2. Prayer must be in the name of Christ. John 14:13-14; Col. 3:16. To do a thing in the name of Christ is simply to do it by His authority. A Christian prays because Christ has authorized him to pray.

3. Prayer must be in reverence. It is a finite man talking to an infinite God. Thus we are not equal with God, and we must realize this when we approach Him in prayer.

4. Prayer must be in sincerity. Vain repetition is condemned. (Matt. 6:7.)

5. Prayer must be in humble submission to God's will. Jesus prayed, "Not my will, but thine, be done." (Luke 22:42.) He taught others to pray, "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." (Matt. 6:10.) When we pray we must be willing to submit to God's will whether it is the way we want it or not. We cannot have our own way in prayer.

6. Prayer must be in a forgiving spirit. Matt. 6:9-13. We are forgiven as we forgive others. Matt. 6:14-15.

7. Before we can pray, and before God will answer our prayers, we must keep God's commandments. "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." (I John 3:22.)

Question and Answer Department

A new feature will be added to the Messenger as soon as possible. It will be a question and answer department. Leslie G. Thomas of Asheville, N.C. will serve as Query Editor. For a number of years, he served in this capacity for the Firm Foundation and, therefore, makes much experience available to the Messenger. All questions should be signed, however, your name will be withheld from publication if requested. Address your letters to: Questions, P. O. Box 5423, Station B, Greenville, S. C.

From the book, What the Bible Teaches, by Leslie G. Thomas, some samples are given to show the type of answers you will receive.

"Is it true that the Catholics had the First Bible?"
"No." (Vol. I, page 41.)

"If Christians today had as much faith as

Question and Answer (cont'd)

the apostles had, could they heal? If not, why not?"

"The mere possession of faith; such as we have today (see Romans 10:17), would not enable anyone to heal or work miracles, it matters not how much faith he might have. No one was able to perform such miracles without a special gift of such power from God, given either directly or through some medium which he designated. There is no need for such miracles today, and it is certain that no one has the power to perform them." (Vol. I, page 159.)

"Is it a sin to go to picture shows?"

"It depends on the kind of picture shows, the effect they have on the one attending them, as well as the effect on others, both inside and outside the church." (Vol. II, page 80.)

SPECIAL JULY ISSUE

In keeping with our conviction that "special issues" have "special interest," we are bringing forth one in July. Gordon Teffeteller, a gifted scholar from Durham, N. C., will serve as guest editor for this issue which will have as its theme, "The Potential of the Church."

The special April issue on the "Christian Home," edited by Johnny Sewell, was well done and well received and we expect the same from the July issue.

Outstanding Speakers (Cont'd)

purpose of the Blue Ridge Encampment was one that every Christian in the Carolinas could support 100%. Since things had become "cloudy" in our minds, we wrote Ira North, Director, and received this answer in a letter from him dated May 2, "The Blue Ridge meeting was begun by J. W. Brents and A. R. Holton for the purpose of encouraging Christians to take a vacation in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains and to see first hand the need for support of the gospel in the Carolinas. The real underlying purpose of the encampment was to encourage mission work in the Carolinas." This is the very purpose to which many of us have given a sizeable portion of our lives. Surely, greater cooperation can only result in greater encouragement of mission work in the Carolinas. This is worth your time and effort.

Brother North contacted J. M. Powell, Program Director, and this letter of May 6 resulted, "During the Blue Ridge Encampment this year, I want to meet with you and other Carolina preachers and plan the program for 1964.

"It is my plan to use more preachers from the area, but I will need your assistance in assigning subjects to the various preachers."

Everyone will be happy to know that a number of elders, preachers and Christians from the Carolinas are already planning to visit the Encampment this year. Surely, we are ready to show our willingness to cooperate with the "underlying purpose of the encampment (that is) to encourage mission work in the Carolinas."

To The Churches in The Carolinas Breathen and Friends:

This is my invitation to all of you to attend the Blue Ridge Encampment which begins June 24 and continues through the 27th. It is my purpose to be there and I would love so much to meet as many as can come it will be a season of refreshing. You will return to your work with a greater zeal.

Should you desire to spend the entire time you may write Miss Eva Emmons, 1726 Hillmont Drive, Nashville, Tenn. for reservations.

J. W. Brents

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

BILL SHELTON, *N.C. News Editor*

BILLY DAVIDSON, *S.C. News Editor*

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

Billy Davidson, Editor
Route 6, Box 444
North Charleston, S. C.

This past month has been a rather busy one with much activity with the churches in Charleston. The Durant Ave. church, where the scribe labors, had a very fine meeting with Olan Hicks of High Point, N. C. The preaching was of the finest quality. There were six restorations and one baptism during the meeting. On Wednesday night following there were four restorations. In the past three weeks there have been three baptisms and three restorations. We are thankful to God for this increase.

From April 28 to May 5, I was with the Augusta Road church in Greenville in a meeting. There were no responses to the invitation but we hope and pray that some that were expected will obey the gospel soon. Carl Lancaster is the preacher there and is loved and appreciated in a way that to me was heart warming. Burl Curtis, minister at Northeast in Greenville, directed the singing in a masterful way. This meeting was the first of an exchange arrangement and Bro. Lancaster will be here in Charleston in September for our fall meeting.

While in the meeting in Greenville I was privileged to see and talk with several brethren from that area. The good brethren from Anderson came one night (in a down pour of rain) and encouraged us with their presence. Rhoden Presnell is doing an exceptional work in Anderson. Several came from the other churches in Greenville. It is good that brethren in that area are working together so well. Saw Bro. Parker from Union and it seems that things are going well there. Rudy Senn from Duncan reports progress and also a meeting that by this writing is over with Gordon Teffeteller doing the preaching. So, from all that I have both seen and heard, the church is making wonderful progress in the Palmetta State.

CHARLESTON, S. C.

Essex Village Congregation

The Essex Village church (formerly Folly Beach) is making progress with their plans to build their first permanent meeting place this summer. I have seen a portion of the plans and I am anxious to see the finished product. It will be very nice.

CHARLESTON, S. C.

Riverside Park Congregation

The Riverside Park church is now meeting in a local high school while their new building is going up. Their bond sale was a great success. We look for and expect great progress from all the churches in Charleston.

WEST COLUMBIA, S. C.

It is good to note the good work going on up at West Columbia. From their bulletin I notice that for April their contribution was just short of an average of $214 per Sunday. They have just concluded a meeting with Jimmy Dorris. He was sent for the meeting by the West Nashville Heights church in Nashville, Tenn., where he labors regularly. W. G. Gnatt is the capable preacher in West Columbia.

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C.

Geoge S. Smith, Reporting

The church of Christ in Myrtle Beach S. C. will be meeting in their new building after May 12. The address is N-44 Ave. and Little River Road. Those traveling

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP

BIBLE TEACHING AND RELIGOUS SERVICES

Teaching the Word of God to the young people is the most important activity at camp. Each camper will have Bible classes and a singing class every morning of each regular camping day taught by capable teachers. There will be regular worship services Sunday evening, Aug. 11, and Sunday morning and evening, Aug. 18. There will be a chapel service every morning and 45 minute devotional and preaching service every evening. There will be a short devotional period in each cabin at bed-time.

MODESTY AND BEHAVIOR

Halters and shorts or other brief or immodest apparel will not be worn in camp. Boys will not go without shirts. Boys will not be allowed in the girls' camping area nor girls in the boys' area. Couples will not be permitted to seclude themselves from others. At least one adult staff member will be in the cabin area at all times. Smoking will not be permitted in camp.

BACK TO CAMP HANES - - - HOW TO REACH CAMP

We have again obtained the use of Camp Hanes, 23 miles northwest of Winston-Salem, N. C., at the foot of the beautiful Sauratown Mountains.

Upon leaving Winston-Salem, go U. S. 52 about 1 mile past Rural Hall. Take N. C. 66 (the first paved road to the right past Rural Hall) and go about 8 miles. Turn left at the highway marker, a wagon wheel easily seen. Go 3 miles on the paved road to camp.

REGISTRATION and COST

Registration will begin at 4:30 P. M. Sunday, Aug. 11. Check-out time for each week will be right after lunch on Saturday of that week.

The cost to each camper will be $15.50 per week. This pays all expenses, including food, teaching materials, athletic equipment and insurance against sickness and accidents. Two or three dollars per week for spending money should be enough.

WHAT TO BRING

A Bible, 2 sheets, 2 blankets, a pillow (if you want one), toilet articles, soap, towels, mirror, comb, flashlight. Bring any musical instruments, games and sporting equipment you wish to bring. Do not bring guns, hunting knives, playing cards or tobacco.

RECREATION FOR EVERYBODY INCLUDING SWIMMING

The afternoons are open for recreation and handcrafts. Campers will have their choice of a variety of games and sports including swimming, boating, archery, basketball, softball, baseball, tennis, ping-pong, volleyball, horseshoes, air rifle shooting and a wide selection of handcrafts.

Swimming is perhaps the most popular athletic activity at camp. Certified life guards are on duty all the time the campers are swimming. Every precaution is taken for the safety of the swimmers. Boys and girls will swim at separate times. Clothing will be worn over swim suits in going to and from the swimming lake.

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICES

Wroship service will be at 7:30 Sunday evenings. Parents and visitors are invited to stay and worship with the campers.

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP

ATTENTION PARENTS: Information Please!

In each cabin there will be at least one counselor. The counselor will look after your child just as you would. Numerous checks of presence and well being are made daily. A Registered Nurse will be on duty at all times. However, in the past there were instances when we could have done a better job if we had known certain additional facts about the child. We would appreciate your writing a letter and attaching it to this application regarding such things as allergies the child may have, medicines that should be taken while at camp by a family doctor's prescription, behavioral characteristics which have or could cause difficulties, if such there be, the progress of the child in school, etc. All information will be kept confidential and used only to help us look after your child better.

PLENTY OF GOOD FOOD

There will be no food served Sunday evening, Aug. 11. Bring your lunch for that meal. Many parents stay and eat lunch with the campers in family groups for that meal. There will be food served in the dining hall for all other meals, including Sunday evening, August 18.

DEADLINE

The deadline for sending in reservations for the first week is set for August 1. Although no definite deadline is set for the second week, we would like to have your application by August 7. Don't miss out on great fun - an always to be remembered trip to camp! Send in your reservation NOW!!

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Application For A Vacation of Fun and Spiritual Enrichment

Last Name ________________ First name ________________ Sex _______ Age _____

Street Address __ __________________________ City ___________________________

State ____ Phone __________________________

Registration fee is $3.00. This fee is to be sent with application and will be credited on the total cost, the balance to be paid when the camper reaches camp. The registration fee is not returnable.

PLEASE CHECK ONE: ☐ I wish to come for the first week only.
☐ I wish to come for the second week only.
☐ I wish to come for both weeks.

Swimming Permission: (Must be signed by parent or legal guardian if the camper is to be permitted to swim). This camper has my permission to swim at the Carolina Bible Camp during the 1963 period. I will not hold camp officials responsible for accidents.

____

Send the above application with registration fee of $3.00 to: C. W. Bradley, Secretary
738 Blackwood Avenue, Winston-Salem, N. C.

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C. (Cont'd)

should turn at 44 Ave. North. More will be reported about the building later.

CHESTER, S. C.
Tom Bolick, reporting

The church in Chester continues to grow with 4 being baptized in April. Attendance records fell with the largest number present April 14th with 96. The month also produced the highest average in weekly attendance with 75. This is the best month ever, attendance-wise, in the history of this church. Tom Bolick, the local minister, held the Spring meeting April 21-26 and it was well attended with an average of 60 per night. The church is growing and we thank God for it. Our daily radio program continues to reach the people and nearly every convert had initial contact with the church through the program.

FLORENCE, S. C.
S. R. Ezell, reporting

This is to inform you that the Church at Florence, S. C. has obtained a minister to further the work of Christ in this area. Bro. Harvey Dodd from Haleyville, Alabama, will move to Florence and start the work on Sunday, May 12.

KINGSTREE, S. C.
J. C. Gregory, reporting

If the Lord has blessed you--and if you are able to help in some small way--will you take a little of your time and read this report.

In Kingstree, S. C. in the summer of 1960 several colored brethren held a tent meeting with hopes of beginning a congregation. There were no visible results but the meeting was well attended. The following spring they began meeting for Sunday worship in a small rented building. They began having results and to this date have baptized about 60 people. James H. Miller of Andrews, S. C. is the preacher for this group.

These colored brethren were so sincere and diligent that they now have purchased a small lot with a very small building on it. This has been done without assistance from other congregations.

In March of this year an area meeting was held in the Kingstree Colored Grammar School with 9 out of 11 congregations being represented. At this meeting over $400 was made up and will be sufficient to pour the concrete floor for the new church. These brethren are now in need of help to buy concrete blocks. The labor will be done by the members of this small group.

We want you to know that your help and support can mean a church building for these colored brethren in Kingstree, S. C. If you are able to contribute--we are sure you will volunteer now--or if you desire further information concerning the work of the colored brethren in Kingstree, please contact the writer.

Please bear in mind that the colored population of this county is over 70%.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Edgewood Congregation
Ernest Thigpen, reporting

The work here continues to be encouraging. We keep seeing some progress from time to time. Since our last report, we have had four to place membership, three to confess wrong, and two to obey the gospel of Christ. Two families, which we regret to lose, are moving away because of their work.

Our plans for the month of June include a Vacation Bible School and gospel meet-

GREENVILLE, S. C. (cont'd)

ing. The V.B.S. will be June 3rd-7th. Classes will be nightly from 7:30 to 9:10. Our gospel meeting is scheduled for June 23rd - 30th. Brother Carl Lancaster of Greenville, S. C. will do the preaching. We plan to have a homecoming day on Sunday June 23rd, with dinner on the grounds at 1 o'clock and a singing at 3 o'clock. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy these events with us. We solicit the prayers of other Christians in behalf of the work here.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Burl Curtis, reporting

A new record in contribution was set the first Sunday in May with $160.00. This goes far above the old record of $126.08 set on November 25, 1962. Bob Harrison, Budget Director, is to be complimented for his outstanding work with Northeast; his leadership and encouragement has helped the congregation surpass the budget the past two months.

We appreciate the many fine comments regarding the long-range plans at Northeast. We are still working toward our goal of completely paying for our building lot in 1963. Some of the congregations in the Carolinas have expressed a desire to help in this work. Your help is needed and will be greatly appreciated.

Willard Conchin of Mocksville, N. C. is scheduled to hold a meeting here the latter part of September.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS
Bill Shelton, Box 5424
Raleigh, N. C.

I suppose that the outstanding news from both North and South Carolina this month is the fine planning that is underway for

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS (cont'd)

Carolina Bible Camp. The camp will be held August 11-17 and August 18-24. The same campsite that was used in 1962 will be used again this year. It belongs to the YMCA in Winston-Salem and is ideal in everyway for a delightful camping experience.

Bro. Ray Fullerton of Goldsboro is educational director of the camp and is to be assisted by Joe Costilow of Rocky Mount and Bill Shelton of Raleigh. In a letter to all camp workers, Bro. Fullerton states that "in the teaching program we are striving this year for a quality the likes of which we have never achieved before. We have carefully planned our curriculum to meet the demands and the needs of those we will teach, and to fit it into the camping site.

Some of the courses that will be studied at this year's camp are: "God and His Word," "To Obey Is Better Than To Sacrifice," "If Ye Love Me," "Youth and Soul Winning," and "Challenge to Youth: Christ or Communism."

I would like to admonish all the preachers in the Carolinas to put on a drive in your congregations for support of the camp. Parents need to be impressed with the value of the study, recreation, and fellowship that this camp offers the young people of this area.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad Street Congregation
Harold Scott, reporting

For the first in the history of Broad St., we have budgeted $300 for foreign missions. In April, we sent $40.00 to Wilington N. Z. to help purchase a building.

Morning service time changed May 5-- worship 9:00; Bible Study 10:00. Wednesday evening classes are studying Basic Bi-

STATESVILLE, N. C. (cont'd)

ble Knowledge for use in personal work.

Jimmy Woodroof held our Spring Meeting May 5-10.

Our new building plans for 5 new classrooms are still held up but we hope to begin building soon.

KINSTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, reporting

On April 21 our speaker was Wayne Poucher of Washington, D. C. Our attendance was 158, breaking all previous records.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Hoyle Burton, reporting

The young adults of the Plaza have begun a program of "socials" held once each month at the homes of various members. We have found this is a fine way to get to know new members and to provide Christian fellowship for all.

The home maintained by the Plaza congregation for its preacher has been sold so that we may purchase a larger house.

We feel a great loss since Bro. Ken Durham, a former Plaza elder, and his family have moved to Greensboro, N. C. However, we are sure that this fine Christian family will be a great inspiration and help to the congregation they are now attending.

The Plaza church is still engaging in its personal work program. This has proved to be a very good way to encourage attendance and to become better acquainted with new members.

We had one baptism last month. One of our fine young people obeyed the gospel.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.
Virgil Hale, reporting

A new record was set in attendance during the month of April with 97 present. The Sunday morning attendance averaged 85, Sunday evening 59, and Wednesday evening 53. We have ordered two more benches for our auditorium due to the increase in our attendance. We are thankful for the interest that is being shown, and we hope and pray that it will continue.

We have a good schedule of cottage meetings going, and we feel that much good will come from these as it has in the past.

Brother Sears has announced that he and his family will soon begin meeting in Lumberton, There are five in this family, four of which are members. They have been driving to Whiteville for some three years a distance of 35 miles. We hate to lose this family, but there is a great need for a congregation in Lumberton, and our prayers will be with them when they leave us.

CAROLINA BEACH, N. C.
W. Richard Judd, reporting

This congregation has been meeting for more than one year in the American Legion Hall at 3rd and Raleigh Streets in Carolina Beach. Since the facilities are not adequate nor the building attractive, we have not seen the growth that we hope to see later.

The Lutheran Church at Kure Beach gave us a larger frame building last year which we have moved to our lot just north of Carolina Beach. As soon as electricity and plumbing are installed, we plan to begin meeting in it.

Spiritually we have grown and we are sure that doors will be opened for us in this growing area.

Please send your bulletins to this writer at Box 406, Carolina Beach, N. C.

BOLIVIA, N. C.
W. Richard Judd, reporting

We established this congregation nearly two years ago. Since then growth has been encouraging. Six persons have responded to the invitation to become Christians.

This congregation has purchased and renovated a shell home and is looking forward to more gorwth this summer.

A gospel meeting is tentatively set for the last week in June.

The attendance has averaged about 40 for the last two months.

This writer drives 100 miles every Sunday to preach for the congregation at his own expense.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Westside Congregation
Thamer Galloway, reporting

Our previous evening service attendance record was surpassed every night of our spring gospel meeting; the highest number attending on the second Saturday 129. Two were baptized, bringing the total additions since March 1 to eleven. We are grateful to the church at Raleigh, N. C. for the presence of brother Bill Shelton and to him for his labors and his fine lessons.

Our building property has been found, discussed and negotiations made so that all that remains to be done is the final surveying and the signing of papers. This is the most important step so far, toward a much needed building, which we hope to see erected soon.

May 12 marked the end of our first year as a congregation of the Lord's church. We indeed have much to be thankful for and much to show for our labors. The glory is God's who is working through brother Johnny Sewell, a resourceful and energetic evangelist, and a group of dedicated Christian people.

All visitors are welcome at 2651 Rozzells Ferry Road. Come and worship with us!!

Come see us soon!!

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Cape Fear Congregation
B G. Langston, reporting

A special drive to reach a goal of 105 for morning worship the first Sunday in April brought an average attendance per service to 100 for the month. Having an average of 48 per service in April of 1962, this congregation has experienced rapid growth in its first year. Of course, we have an added advantage over most areas so far as increasing the ranks numerically is concerned due to the number of members in military service being sent to Ft. Bragg. In 1963 there have been 4 baptisms, 4 restorations, and 8 to place membership. Of this number, 1 baptism and 2 restorations have come in the past two weeks.

The Lord willing, we shall have a Gospel Meeting under a tent, July 14-24, on Village Drive opposite Mary McArthur School with Bro. Paul Vining, Caruthersville, Mo. doing the preaching and Bro. Frank Cahoon of Raleigh directing the song service. We hope that brethren living in nearby cities will help us in this effort to save souls by attending every service possible.

The articles in the April issue of The Messenger of Truth on the "Christian Home" were superb.

SHELBY, N. C.
Bob Herndon, reporting

The remodeling of our recently acquired property has been almost completed and we are enjoying our new quarters. Efforts are being made to have a summer meeting; a school auditorium is conveniently located nearby that we can use.

Our offering for April averaged $88.43 with an average attendance of approximately 30.

Nearest congregations to Shelby are: Gaffney, 18 miles; Spindale, 23 miles; and Gastonia, 22 miles; so you can see that we have much work to do.

VALDESE, N. C.
Madeline C. Brown

The building in Valdese, in which the church of Christ worships, is nearing completion in our renovating process. Just walk into the building and your spirits will be lifted! Watch your step, for you can't hear it; a carpet of a pleasing color cushions your feet as you walk down the isle to your seat, as well as the preacher as he stands on the rostrum to present his lesson; the carpet also lessening the noise of late arrivals, and/or children who of neccessity go in and out during a service. The chartreuse color walls are just yellow enough to hold your interest, but green enough to rest your eyes; the woodwork trim is a bewitching beige, blending pleasingly with the color of the carpet. But the most inspiring color if you are just entering for the first time, is the white, white ceiling which automatically draws your eyes toward Heaven to instill in your mind Godly thoughts guiding your whole being toward a worshipful reverence, preparing your mind for a period of worship in Spirit and in Truth. Do stop by and worship with us sometime this summer if you plan a trip anywhere in or near.

The March averages for the church here are as follows:

Daily Bible Readers	28
Bible Classes	41
Worship Service	47
Sun. Night Worship	29
Wed. Bible Classes	33
Contribution	$160.61

Our Gospel Meeting will be June 16-23 with A. T. Pate as the speaker, services each evening at 7:30. Our vacation Bible School will be in the mornings, June 17-21, with classes for all ages.

DURHAM, N. C.
Gordon Teffeteller, reporting

A very splendid week was enjoyed while the meeting at Duncan was in progress. The Christians there were wonderful, and no one could ask for a finer co-worker than Brother Rudy Senn, a friend of the preacher for some years. Many folk from other congregations came to support the effort. One fine young father was restored during the meeting.

DURAM, N. C. (cont'd)

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.
South-Fork Congregation
Carolyn E. Eldridge, reporting

The congregation at South Fork in Winston-Salem has just completed a very successful meeting with Bro. John T. Smithson, Jr. preaching. An average of 210 persons per night sets a record for attendance at meetings. For all three services Sunday, new records in attendance were set--235 for morning worship being the all time high. Three persons were restored, and two baptized during the meeting which brought the total baptisms thus far this year to 10.

Our next meeting will be held the first week of September with Bro. Paul Southern preaching. Vacation Bible School begins June 17 to run for one week.

TRYON, N. C.
Kenneth Willis, reporting

Our Spring meeting is scheduled for June 24-30, with Charles E. Cobb of Gallatin, Tenn., doing the preaching. Time of service is 7:45.

With an increase in attendance from the 20's to the mid 40's the few short months I have been here, the work continues to be encouraging. A weekly radio program was resumed the first of April over the local station, WTYN. Many fine comments are being received, and thus more contacts are made.

April was indeed an encouraging month for us at Tryon. Besides the resuming of the radio program, a new electric mineograph machine was purchased, and our hearts are uplifted by an enjoyable and well-attended singing April 28.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Brooks and Rosedale Congregation
Randall Harley, reporting

One of our most successful gospel meetings was held by T. A. Isaacs during the week of April 28. An average attendance of 154 and 3 responses were among the more encouraging results.

A building committee was appointed by the elders to help make plans for a building for the colored brethren now meeting at the Bloodworth Street Y. M. C. A. Plans for the church buildings at Greenville and Wilson, N. C. are being studied. Joint groups of colored and white members have recently visited the buildings at both locations.

A summer meeting is being planned at Henderson. Brother Ralph Reeves of Nashville, Tennessee will conduct this meeting. At the present time Ed Woodhouse is continuing to commute from Raleigh to conduct services at the West End School.

A Vacation Bible School is now being organized for the Brooks and Rosedale congregation. It will probably be held the latter part of June.

STATESVILLE, N. C.
Broad St. Congregation
Harold Scott, reporting

Our recent gospel meeting with Jim Woodroof preaching resulted in more responses and a higher attendance than any meeting in our history. Ten were baptized into Christ and as many confessed wrongs. A record attendance of 254 on Sunday evening got the meeting off to an excellent start and an average attendance of 225 per night resulted. One has responded since the meeting.

Our classroom annex is on the way up--block is being laid this week. We expect to be using the new rooms by September.

SEOUL, KOREA
O. P. Baird, reporting

In the last few weeks two young men in my daily class have been baptized. One is a working man and the other is a college student.

We have finished the translation of a booklet, "Questions and Answers about the Church and Salvation," which I wrote several years ago but we do not have the money to have it printed. We plan to start soon preparing some correspondence courses to be translated.

Five sets of colored slides and taped narrations of our work are now in the U. S. A., and three more are being prepared to send. If you would like to see it, please write to us at our A. P. O. address. We are deeply grateful to everyone who is helping in this work.

The following address is only for letters, exposed film or recording tape. Postage to an A. P. O. address is the same as to a destination in the U. S. A.

Church of Christ Mission
A. P. O. 301
San Francisco, California

NOTICE!!!
By Bill G. Smith

A rumor has been circulated concerning the soundness of J. W. Davis since he moved to Sitka, Alaska. The statement below is signed by members of the congregation where he is working. Two of these men moved from Poinsett congregation in Greenville, S. C. where I worked before moving to Valdese. I asked these men to sign and they were happy to do so.

"I, the undersigned, do hereby state that to the best of my knowledge J. W. Davis is sound in his teaching and preaching as a gospel preacher."

(Signed) Clint Potter
(signed) Alfred Cockrell
(signed) Edward A. Cagle

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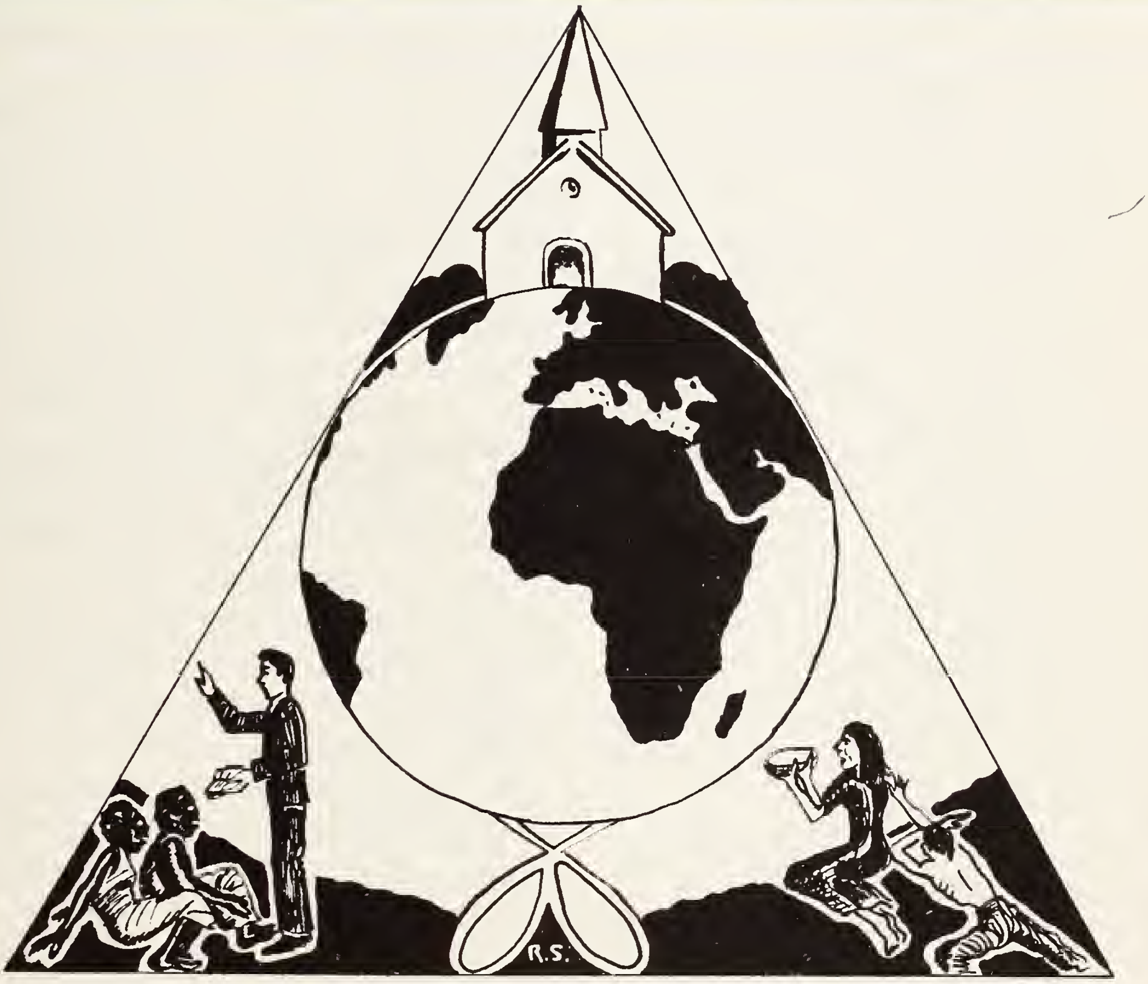

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation." — Mark 16:15

". . . . they would that we should remember the poor; which very thing I was also zealous to do." — Galations 2:10

THE POTENTIAL OF THE CHURCH

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 7 JULY, 1963

Editorial: The Potential of The Church

Gordon Teffeteller
Durham, N. C.

Recently Jay Smith made a very succinct statement of the fact that many of the members of the churches of Christ are roped and tied up by "potential": they are talented, prosperous, articulate, but hardly successful in the work of the church! What may be said for individuals may be shouted for churches; many of them too aren't lacking in capability but are simply not getting the job done.

Now it is not wisdom simply to engage in the "paralysis of analysis!" The articles in this issue are necessarily general in nature; one may strike in area highly relevant to one person or group, while another may be applicable to someone else. We trust that by viewing the several features of the principle of potential developed by the writers, some advancement toward eliminating lost motion among us Christians may be made.

What are the limits to what we can do, so long as we continue true to the gospel, without the guidance of which our spiritual lives may be come completely denatured? The limits of one great man had been removed, for he said, "I can do all things in him who strengthens me.. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:13, 19). The restrictions that hold us down are usually those which were plaguing the Corinthians: "Our mouth is open to you, Corinthians. Our heart is wide. You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. In return- I speak as to children - widen your hearts also" (II Corinthians 6:11-13). The basic problem is that of proper vision, proper love, and proper concern for the abiding principles of success through Christ. It is my feeling that we have failed to demand enough of ourselves. Therefore our limits are narrow ones indeed. How desparately we need to widen our hearts, our plans, and our prayers.

Historically, the church has presented a checkered view in utilizing its potential. In the initial burst of Christ's church upon the world, the diciples came very close to the ideal - translating their opportunities into reality. Gradually the ostensible followers of Christ drifted from the powers and potential to change the world, to avenues of human pursuit, often despising the Lord's mode of operation revealed in the Scriptures. When the Restoration Movement began n a past century, those who espoused it were truly men of destiny, burning with a desire to change the direction of their generation. In Milton's terms a commentator of yesteryear might have said: "Thousands at his bidding speed and post o'er land and ocean without rest." Today the work goes on but not in poportion to the potential. There is much dead wood in the congregations of God's people today, yet the churches continue to be vital, to grow, and by their fruits to show that through them the gospel still finds channels in which it flows, transformingly, into the world. We who have been nutured in the gospel have the responsibility and high privilege of seeing that these channels remain unclogged. The history of our

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POTENTIAL OF CHURCH (cont'd)

era may well reveal tremendous gains in numbers and spirituality, but our consideration is, "Will it show us a people really awake to what we genuinely are equipped to do?"

In evaluating the potential of the church, it is the effect upon people--their souls particularly--that must concern us vitally. The only other more important consideration that this might be the strength of our love and devotion to a wonderfully loving Father. In serving the needs of vibrant masses of people we must lay down certain criteria: First, the potential to perform a great work of ministering is superior to a work oriented toward vanity and materialism. Thus a church should reckon the salvaging of one sinner infinitely greater than a building "better than the sect's down the street." While the Lord's work should indeed "go first-class" it will fail whenever style and not evangelism is the keynote. Second, in regard to the people let us put a premium upon what activating people within the church does--it fires them up; gets them out of the spectator class; reflects genuine Christianity at work; and snowballs the rate of growth. Therefore let us sound a trumpet and say to each other, "Wake up! Get going ! There is a great work to be done by everyone!" (and not just filling the communion trays or sweeping out the building, worthy as these chores are). Third, let us emphasize the potential of the young folk, still brimming with enthusiasm and unburdened with the cynicism that has hardened the hearts of many of the older folk.

In developing potential, who leads the way? Obviously, the elders of the congregations must really strive at utilizing the capabilities of their flocks. This is basic. Naturally if an eldership is itself burdened by a lack of vision, most potential will be wasted. Where the elders genuinely and prayerfully strive for a great developmental program, the work flourishes and a glow surrounds the entire work. Nevertheless in our part of the world, most congregations are yet elderless, creating a situation demanding unusually consecrated work on the part of those not elders. Generally in small churches the evangelist must work as the leader of the group seeking to utilize its capabilities. The persons who serve as Bible class teachers are crucial to the complete realization of the potential also. Why work hard to secure the attendance of non-members, only to see them not properly taught by those who are in charge of the classes?

The parent in the home is a tremendous cog in the process of developing the Church's potential. First, the true Christian parent is doubly concerned that the congregation with which the family is affiliated be dynamic and scriptural: it assists in his role as an individual saint amenable to God for his conduct, and in his role as parent with care of the souls of his children. The church would therefore do well to re-study the impact of solid Christian families upon the advancement of the congregation's potential. Second, it is in the home more than anywhere else that the teachings of Christ as propagated through the church are translated into everyday reality. Church leaders would do well to have more than a passing concern with the kind of homelife prevalent among the membership.

Is there a congregation anywhere revealing ideal utilization of its potential? In this dream congregation every elder would be bold as a lion in planning; meek as Christ in his view toward sinners; prayerful about every decision; gentle about counsel; inclined toward sacrifice. The evangelist would be fearless in handling the truth; competent in studying and teaching; up and about in personal contacts; exercising himself to deliver inspiring lessons; faithful in all. Every teacher would teach every student as if his soul depended upon it (it does), and be constantly seeking improvement. The evangelistic program would be the concern of every member,

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FINANCIAL POTENTIAL

Charles S. Chandler
Gastonia, N. C.

Smokey, the bear, says, "Only YOU can prevent a forest fire!" Can we not as well say, "Only YOU can prevent a lost world from going to an eternal hell"? Has God required of us a task beyond our potential? Jehovah gave to only twelve men the assignment of taking the gospel to the entire world. He knew the potential of these men and of those whom they would teach. God has never required of man that for which He did not give the potential. And he knew man's financial resources were adequate to fulfil the challenge in every age. In just one generation the known world heard the gospel. Can it not happen again in this generation?

THE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE

No one was ever known to give too much not even the poor widow, who gave all she had. (Mark 12:42-44) To perform the Lord's will has always taken an abiding faith, hard work, and financial ability. The Lord wants us to teach Christ to the lost, to edify the saints, and to provide assistance for those who cannot help themselves. Is this His reasoning for saying, "Upon the first day of the week, let each one of you lay by him in store, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come" (I Corinthians 16:1? Is this why He said, "Let each man do according as he hath purposed in his heart: not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7)?

God's children, long before the time of Moses, promised a tenth of their prosperity to Jehovah for His work (Genesis 14: 20; 28:22). Under the Old Law tithes were required of the Hebrews with other gifts which were in addition and voluntary (Deuteronomy 14:22, 24, 28).

The New Covenant, under which we live as Christians, is a 'better covenant' (Hebrews 8:6). If this means anything, it means that the standard of the New Testament is higher than that of the Old Testament; the requirements are greater; and the sacrifice of Christ on the cross was greater. Therefore, we have better promises, a better hope, and in turn more is required of us than of the Jew. Jesus said "except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:20) Does not Jesus require us to give as much, yea even more than the tenth required of the Jew? How much above the ten percent is where the Lord leaves it to our love for the Lord and our ability. No one can argue that he cannot give a tenth of his gross income to the Lord. God placed all Jews under the law. The man who earned little gave just a tenth; likewise the man who made much.

Until we as Christians have exceeded the minimum requirement of the Jews in our giving, can we really claim to know anything about giving? There is no sacrifice when we give only a small portion of our abundance. Can you imagine a redeemed person claiming to be giving in an acceptable way, and giving less than the Jews, less than a tenth of his income? Is ten cents out of each dollar we earn too much for the Lord? Does it even border on sacrifice? What about ten dollars out of each hundred dollars? For a long time many of us have been giving out of a "heart of love", and we have not loved God enough to give nearly enough to preach the gospel in just half of the nations of the earth! We love our God only enough to give Him about two cents out of each dollar and as a result the church goes limping along when she ought to be a mighty tower of strength to the world! Where is the spirit of sac-

FINANCIAL POTENTIAL (cont'd)

rifice characterized by the early Christians who "sold their possessions and goods and parted them to all, according as any man had need" (Acts 2:45)? Where is the spirit of sacrifice among us today like "the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and soul: and not one of them said that aught of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. ...For neither was there among them any that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto each, according as any one had need" (Acts 4:32, 34-35)? Did Paul not tell the Ephesian elders, "In all things I gave you an example, that so laboring ye ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35)?

Some Christians today are manifesting this spirit of sacrifice, and we thank God for them. But all too many of us have yet failed to catch the glimpse of the necessity, yea, the blessings that come through such a spirit of sacrifice. Only when we gain this spirit among us will we begin to restore New Testament Christianity in practice in this present age.

FUNDS AS STORED POWER

What we have, God has given to us. We are merely stewards of His abundance. Money is powerful! It can be dangerous! Money will purchase many things. Money can be used to a tremendous advantage. And yet money can be one of the most damnable things on the earth, for Paul wrote to Timothy, "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil: which some reaching after have been led astray from the faith, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows" (I Timothy 6:10). God has never condemned man for amassing large fortunes. Many of God's people did He bless with great accumulation of material wealth, but the misuse of this blessing God has always condemned. Knowing man's nature, and his selfish attitude, God warned, "It is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God" (Matthew 19:24). It has been said that all we can take with us beyond this life is what we have given away while here. Money is stored up power! Some prosperous brethren have used their blessings to God's glory. One elderly saint gave most liberally to the Lord's work. When asked how she could do it, she replied "I can't give it away as fast as the Lord keeps bringing it in." Remember what Jesus said, "give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, shall they give into your bosom" (Luke 6:38). God can help us make ninty percent of our income go further than we can stretch a hundred percent. Try Him and see! The gospel may be free, but it takes money to get it to the people. Money in our hands is God's power through man to take the saving gospel to a lost world.

TAPPING THE POTENTIAL

Christians have the money to do anything God wants us to do. All we need is to be adequately challenged for good works. This has been proved many times over. In my experience of the mission field, I have yet to see a worthy cause go lacking for the funds needed to do the work at hand when the funds were sought. Jesse P. Sewell said a long time ago that if a Christian saw a job that needed to be done for the Lord, he should not be ashamed to ask for funds necessary. And Jesus said, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matthew 7:7). What did Jesus really mean by this? He meant exactly what He said, "ask, and it shall be given you;". On occasions in mission work when money was needed for a good work, but not available, I have traveled many miles to

(see page 7)

THE TEACHING POTENTIAL

Elbert Schory, Jr.
Georgetown, S. C.

The surging flame of Christianity swept across the Roman lands, igniting the torches of love, mercy, justice, and truth. Conversions increased, God's kingdom gained momentum, and the church of our Lord matured. Christianity soon had conquered the known world of its day, a remarkable, unbelievable feat when viewed by historians, religious or secular, for in less than two hundred years this spiritual movement initiated by only a small core of twelve men who were guided by the Holy Spirit and sparked by Jesus of Nazareth, God's Son in the flesh; persecuted by governments, religions, and societies; and plagued with devils from within its own ranks grew numerically into the thousands of thousands, piercing even the hearts of some who dwelt in the house of Caesar.

We who live in the twentieth century, seemingly far removed from the first and second centuries A. D., stand amazed and bewildered as we gaze into the past and view that enthusiastic New Testament church, her unparalleled accomplishments and astounding conquests. She met the charging, gigantic adversities head-on, proudly wielding the sword of the Spirit, the word of God, and in this means of combating the forces of evil we discover a clue to her extraordinary success. The early church of Jesus Christ, beginning with the apostles, heeded the last words uttered by our Savior while upon this sin cursed planet before His ascension and return into His heavenly home.

"... All authority hath been given me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore, and make diciples of all nations, (and teach all nations, KJV) baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Mt. 28:18-20).

These three verses furnish five keys to successful church growth, not only for the days of the past, our present era of time, but also for the future generations. If these five keys are properly used, they will unlock for us the doors of numerical increase and spiritual development. Notice that on each key is stamped the word "teach."

Key #1: Jesus Christ is the sole authority in matters of religious teaching. The inspired pages of the New Testament unfold to its readers the profound doctrine of our Savior and His blameless life upon the earthen sod. He represents the perfect model for us to copy and supplies us with the pattern to follow. The four biographies of Jesus, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, relate the good news and glad tidings to all mankind by portraying His humble, unselfish life and excerpting certain stories and doctrines which He imparted to His hearers. Acts describes the history of the early followers of Christ into various portions of the globe. The remainder of the New Testament contains expositions of the gospel, words of encouragement, and aids to spiritual improvement, Jesus Christ being the focal point. His authority extends into the realms of teaching, thinking, and living, and unless the eyes of Christian men focus upon His image and their hearts yield to His will, discensions, divisions, and diversions will result and hinder the cause of Christianity.

"And whatsoever ye do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Col. 3:17).

Key #2: Go teach all peoples the gospel of Christ: What Christ has done for them,

TEACHING POTENTIAL (cont'd)

can do through them. Tell men and women the story of Jesus, how He, the Son of God encased in a human body, lived a perfect life so that all might have footprints in which to walk as we cross the mine field of life, how He died a lonely death to pave the way of reconciliation between man and God through the forgiveness of sins. Tell them that Jesus will be their true friend, will walk them through life and death as their trusted companion, will mediate between them and God and stand as an advocate with the Father, and will cleanse them of their wrongdoings if they "walk in the light." Tell them that in Christ they can be a power for good, a righteous influence that can help save the world, for the Trinity will dwell in them and work through them to better the corrupted environment of human civilization.

Key #3: Baptize the diciples, those penitent believers whom we have taught. Proper teaching results in genuine conversions. "...for it (the gospel, EAS, Jr.) is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth..." (Ro. 1:16). "But thanks be to God, that, whereas ye were servants of sin, ye became obedient from heart to that form of teaching whereunto ye were delivered; and being made free from sin, ye became servants of righteousness" (Ro. 6:17, 18). Baptism, the culminating act that frees us from sin, saves us, puts us into Christ and His death, and results in our receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit must be performed (Acts 2:38, 1 Pet. 3:21, Gal. 3:27, Ro. 6:3).

Key #4: Teach the baptized diciples the commandments of Christ. Baptism marks the beginning of the new life in Christ and the upward march to heaven. The novice must grow in the Christian graces (2 Pet. 1:5-7) and leave the doctrine of the first principles of Christ (Heb. 6:1-3). In failing to use this key effectively, the church of today can falter as did the church in the second century when the great apostasy started to gain momentum. Men who are not taught the commandments of Christ are open prey to the devil's minsters, those who preach the precepts of men (Mt. 15:9).

Key #5: Teach that Christ will be with all faithful Christians. Christ does not remove Himself from our place in life, but He stands ready at any time to extend a helping hand when sore trials may come our way. He not only is with us, but also is in us (Eph. 3:17, 2 Cor. 13:5).

"And lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

POTENTIAL OF CHURCH (cont'd)

and each would consider himself a recruiter for Christ. Sacrifice would be engaged in with joy, and mission work would explode. The poor would be treated with compassion, and none would lack for fellowship. The attendance and contribution boards would nearly burst with the Spirit of Christ. Let us pray and hasten the day that every congregation of Christ's great church may show these characteristics!! When the last work has been spoken about the twentieth century, let it reflect us as true people who tried to develop our potential!

FINANCIAL POTENTIAL (cont'd)

tell Christians of the need, and one faithful saint used to say, "You will come back with is." And I always did. There were times it did not come just as we had expected, but God always provided for His work. We never asked for money we did not sincerely feel was needed for God's work.

In a recent article in TIME magazine, the membership of the churches of Christ was listed at 2,225,000. Do you have any concept at the residual power of this many poeple? These people could change the course of the world--fewer people have done it.

Three thousand souls were added to the

(see page 10)

THE CHURCH AS A SPIRITUAL RESERVOIR

Leslie G. Thomas
Asheville, N. C.

Among the many significant statements in the Book of Ecclesiastes are these words: "Behold, this only have I found: that God made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions." (Ecclesiastes 7:29.) We learn from Genesis 1:27 that man was originally made in God's image, and he was therefore perfect; but when the tempter beguiled Eve in the garden of Eden, Adam followed her into sin, and that has been the sad story of the human race all down through the ages. Paul sums up the matter in one of the dark pictures of the Bible, as may be seen by reading the latter part of the first chapter of Romans. Thus, instead of remaining loyal to God who made him, men have, by their own devices, created for themselves a world which is largely in rebellion against God, and which eventually will be completely destroyed. (Cf. 2 Peter 3:8-13.)

This is the kind of world into which Jesus came when God sent him to redeem mankind from the evil one. Paul said, "And even as they refused to have God in their knowledge, God gave them up unto a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not fitting." (Romans 1:28.) That was said about the Gentiles, but the same inspired writer told the Jews that they were no better. (See Romans 3:9, 10, 23.) But God was not willing to give man up to sin and eternal destruction, and so he warned the evil one that a mighty conflict was forthcoming which would determine who would be the master of the world. (See Genesis 3:15.) Christ was sent to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8), and that is exactly what the Bible teaches that he did. (See Colossians 2:15, where the word rendered "having despoiled" means, according to Arndt-Gingrich, to disarm.)

A short time before his death upon the cross, and in response to Peter's great confession, Jesus said, "And I also say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. (Matthew 16:18.) Jesus came into the world to seek and to save the lost (Luke 19:10), and he, in effect, told Peter just how he was going to accomplish that task. The saved are compared to a building, and Jesus proposed to take the people who respond to the gospel call (Mark 16:15, 16) and fashion them into a holy temple in the Lord. (Cf. Ephesians 2:21; 1 Peter 2:5.) But let us begin our study of the subject of the subject before us by considering

THE CHURCH'S RELATION TO THE HOLY TRINITY

"But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, for that God chose you from the beginning unto salvation in sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: whereunto he called you through our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." (2 Thessalonians 2:13, 14.) "According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 1:2.) These two passages clearly link our salvation with the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Father calls, the Son made salvation possible by his death on the cross, and the Spirit makes the new creature (2 Corinthians 5:17; Titus 3:5); while man, by his obedience, is born into the family of God (John 3:5).

Paul frequently refers to the church as the body of Christ (Ephesians 1:22, 23), and he tells us exactly how one gets into the body. (See Galatians 3:26, 27.) This baptism brings us into complete fellowship with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, according to the word of Jesus in Matthew

SPIRITUAL RESERVOIR (cont'd)

28:19. The "name" (singular) is common to all three, and indicates their unity. Furthermore, one's name is equivalent to his person (Cf. John 1:11, 12), and so, baptism "into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" results in the most complete unity of which the finite mind is capable of conceiving. (Cf. John 17:20, 21.)

And too, the greatest possible blessings which can come to the Lord's people, or, which is the same thing, the church, are likewise bestowed by and through the Sacred Three. (Read Ephesians 3:14-19.) Thus, not only is the church a great reservoir of spiritual blessings; its contents and possibilities are incomparable. (Cf. Ephesians 1:3; Philippians 4:13, 19.)

THE DISTINCTIVE MISSION OF THE CHURCH IN TERMS OF ITS DIVINE EQUIPMENT

Looking at the question from the practical point of view, it is not out of place to say that the church has substantially the same mission today that Jesus had when he was here upon the earth. This idea is rendered almost certain by Paul's statement in Ephesians 1:22, 23. The term "fulness" in the passage just referred to is apparently used in the sense of complement, or that which makes Christ complete, that is, insofar as his work here among men is concerned. This, of course, has no reference to that which Christ did in making the salvation of the race possible. The work of Christ which remains to be done is that of making known to men that which he has already done for them (Cf. John 17:4), and of persuading them to accept the salvation and attendant blessings which are available to all who are willing to obey him. (Cf. Hebrews 5:8, 9.)

For convenience sake and in order to help us understand better the mission of the church as the complement of Christ, the work which the Lord expects his people to perform may be divided into three categories, namely, (1) social worship and self-edification, such as is accomplished in the various meetings of the church and the daily contacts which the several members have with each other--Hebrews 10:24, 25; (2) the evangelization of the lost--Mark 16:15, 16; cf. Colossians 1:23, and (3) beneficent ministrations--Galatians 6:10. This last reference includes all moral good, such as Paul describes in the previous verses of the chapter.

The gospel of Christ may be looked upon as an extention of his personal ministry, and that is the means by which and through which the church is to accomplish its mission for him. (Cf. Matthew 28:19, 20; Acts 2:42.) Not only are the Lord's people to use the means which he provided for them; they are also expected to follow his example in dealing with those who are in need of his blessings. (Cf. Galatians 6:1, 2; 2 Timothy 2:24-26.) When Jesus was here among men he came in contact with many unpromising people; but when he left them some were changed to the extent that one would hardly recognize them. (Cf. Peter, Zacchaeus; and especially Saul of Tarsus, to whom the Lord appeared on the Damascus road.)

CHRIST HAS ALSO PROMISED PROVIDENTIAL AID

The word "providence," as that term is usually applied to God, does not occur anywhere in the Bible, but the idea is there; and those who are acquainted with the idea of God's care for and guidance of his people runs like a thread throughout the Old and New Testaments. In summing up the teaching of the Bible on the subject now under consideration, Baker's Dictionary of Theology says that "the doctrine of providence tells us that the world and our lives are not ruled by chance or by fate but by God, who lays bare his purposes of providence in the incarnation of his Son."

Christ himself gives a personal affirmation of the doctrine of providence in con-

(see page 10, col. 1)

FINANCIAL POTENTIAL (cont'd)

Lord on Pentecost. Since then one by one others have been added to the Lord. They had a far reaching effect on those people of the first century. Did you know that one vote saved Andrew Johnson from impeachment; one vote was the deciding factor in admitting Texas and California to the union; and one vote decided the Rutherford Hayes -Samuel Tilden presidential election?

Think of what tremendous potential lies in two and a quarter million people! What if each ONE lead just ONE more to Christ this year? And if this happened each year for the next ten years, can you imagine the results? Over two billion Christians!

And can you imagine the financial potential available among us today? A large percentage of this vast number live in the richest nation on earth, too. If each of us gave just 50¢ more a week, and most of us could do this, this would amount to over a million dollars a week, or about fifty-eight million dollars more each year than present contributions. FABULOUS???? Yes! Compared to current giving. What will it take to see such visionary results? Essential is a wide-awake leadership who will first catch the vision, and then challenge God's people to the tack ahead. We have the potential; we have the people; we have the money; but it must be tapped.

Only our own short sightedness, our own akwardness, our own lack of dedication can keep this vast army of God from conquering the world for the Master. Yes, we can take this old world for Christ anytime you're ready!

SPIRITUAL RESERVOIR (cont'd)

nection with his final commission, namely, "And lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." (Matthew 28:20.) The marginal reading for "always" is all the days. Weymouth translates the passage in these words: "And remember, I am with you always, day by day, until the Close of the Age." And so, in the words of David Thomas, "Brothers! let us take heart and pursue our labors. We are ignorant, we are weak, and we are dying; but we have wisdom, power, and eternal life ever at our side."

The apostle Paul expresses the Biblical doctrine providence in these words: "And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28). The apostle does not ignore nor belittle the disorder and evil which are all around us; but he does ask that we postpone sentence upon the facts, until the time when an intelligent judgment will be possible. Something either good or bad which occurs today may be the beginning of a series of circumstances, which will not reach fruition for the next quarter of a century; but those years may prove how essential that good or bad experience was for our later good. The ingredients of a prescription, taken singly, might cause one's death; but the combination may be exactly what is needed for the patient's welfare. It is God who is able to take all things which happen to us and cause them to work for our good. "We know also that those who love God, those who have been called in terms of his purpose, have his aid and interest in everything." (Moffatt; cf. 2 Corinthians 9:8; Ephesians 3:20.)

Blue Ridge Encampment

Burl Curtis

The 1963 Blue Ridge Encampment ended June 28 with approximately 425 in attendance. Twenty states were represented with Tennessee and Alabama leading the list. Very few were registered from the Carolinas; however, several were present who were not on the list.

In addition to the wonderful fellowship and the outstanding lessons, there were these things growing out of the encampment which are of special interest to the Carolinas.

Bro. B. C. Goodpasture volunteered to give one issue of the Advocate during the

(see page 13)

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS
Bill Shelton, Box 5424, Raleigh, N. C.

As we look over the bulletins and reports from North Carolina, we see the evidence of vacation time in the attendance figures of most congregations. Though we have grown to expect somewhat of a "slump" in attendance during the summer months, it still makes us wonder if the Christians that are absent from our services are attending services at some other place. We can only hope and pray that they are.

The Cape Fear congregation in Fayetteville reports the following progress on their plans for a new building: "We have finally secured the signatures of all the home owners in the area on Village Drive where we plan to put up a church building. Just as soon as we get the approval of the Veterans Administration, and sell 50% of our bonds, we will be ready to go. We hope this won't take long."

The new building in Wilson is just about completed. Bro. Melton informs us that July should see it completed and ready for use. As of June 18 all that was lacking was the laying of floor tile, painting, and grading of the lot. We can expect a complete report on that work in the next months issue.

I am still not receiving reports from all the congregations in the state. I know that it is easy to forget to send a report every month, and I also realize that it seems that some months there is nothing new to report. But the elders and preachers in other places are interested in what you are doing and how much progress the church in your locality is making. Why not set aside one day each month to compile a report? Remember that reports must be in my hands by the 20th of each month in order to make the issue for the following month. This publication can be a fine news medium if you will cooperate by letting us know about your work.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Plaza Congregation
Hoyle Burton, Reporting

At the Plaza congregation, we have just completed a very successful gospel meeting held by Bro. Kidwell from Corinth, Mississippi. Many fine Christians were restored to their first love as well as many strengthened in the faith of the Lord.

Bro. Kidwell and his family are now with us to help in spreading the borders of the Lord's Kingdom in this area. We are very proud to have this fine Christian family with us at the Plaza.

During the prolonged absence of a regular evangelist, the work has continued on a very good level at the Plaza. We are now looking forward to greater things in the future.

With the welcoming of the Kidwells, we express our regret that Bro. and Sis. McEnerney are now living in Florida. Our loss of this fine Christian family will certainly be the gain of any congregation. Sis. McEnerney has assisted in the work of the church here in many ways; the activities assigned to the ladies of the church and the teaching program. Bro. McEnerney has served in the capacity of a deacon, assisted in the benevolent work and has helped many times as a guest speaker in many of the neighboring congregations. We pray that God will bless this fine family in all their journeys of life.

We are happy to report that many of our

fine college students are now home for the summer months. The congregation benefits tremendously from the fine work of these young students as well as the Christian example they set for others.

The enthusiasm seems to be very good here at the Plaza. More people are doing more work for the Lord than ever before. For a word of encouragement, there is an old saying that "what we do today is what we will talk about tomorrow". Perhaps we could adapt this to our Christian life and say that "the work we do for the Lord today will be the results of where we spend eternity tomorrow".

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Dilworth Congregation
E. R. Bowlin, Reporting

On Sunday, May 12, brother Calvin Bennett was appointed elder; brother Dale Curtis and brother Glen Lively were appointed deacons. We at Dilworth wish them well in this new endeavor of theirs. The congregation now has four elders and four deacons.

We are losing three faithful members due to a new work assignment. They are Bro. and Sis. Jack Seyers and their daughter Kay. They have been a blessing to us and we shall miss them.

Bro. Sam Norman has preached some mighty fine lessons over the radio since we began broadcast of our Sunday morning worship service. We believe much good has been accomplished by this series of broadcasts.

An area meeting for the congregations of the Charlotte vicinity will have been held by the time this issue goes to press. The men of the various congregations will meet Thursday, May 30, at 7:30 P. M. to discuss the work of the church in and around Charlotte. A report of this meeting will be in the July issue. The Dilworth congregation meets at 301 Greystone Road, just off the 3100 block South Boulevard. which is U. S. Route 21.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Westside Congregation
Thamer Galloway, Reporting

Plans are now being made for our first Vacation Bible School. It is scheduled to begin on July 22 and is to continue through July 26. Although this seems to be an unusual time for conducting a VBS we feel it is best considering other summer events. We are in a heavily populated area and expect a very good attendance.

During the month of May there were three additions to the congregation. Two were by baptism and a third by transfer of membership.

We are in the process of revising our personal work program, hoping to give it increased effectiveness and wider coverage.

You are always welcome at 2651 Rozzells Ferry Road!

KINSTON, N. C.
Noyles E. Sewell, Reporting

During May two were baptized here bringing our total to eleven for the year. I was in a meeting in Kannapolis, N. C. where Jack Byers is doing a fine work. New records were set in contribution, and attendance was excellent. One was restored. We appreciate the fellowship of preaching brethren in that area. Next week here will be VBS and the following week I will be in Nashville with the fine West End congregation under whose oversight we labor here in Kinston. Our fall plans include an ex-

KINSTON, N. C. (cont'd)

hibit in the Lenoir County fair and a one week meeting in November with C. W. Bradley of Winston-Salem, N. C.

LEXINGTON, N. C.
Walter E. Neal, Reporting

Jack Byars of Kannapolis, N. C. closed a good meeting June 2. For the first time we had those from the neighborhood to attend every service. This is a hard field. Back in the winter, sickness and inclement weather kept the attendance down. Now it is vacation time that is keeping the attendance down. Who will send us a donation for our building fund? Any amount large or small will be appreciated very much.

TAYLORSVILLE, N. C.
Tony Forrest, Reporting

May has been a good month for the church in Taylorsville. We added two members by baptism on the ninth and tenth. One of these is a young girl from a denominational home, and the other is a mother with four children still at home.

We broke two records the last Sunday of the month with a contribution of $65.65 and in attendance for the evening service of 26. Our contribution has been up for the last several weeks as we look forward to building before the year is out. We are presently indebted some $850 on a beautiful lot which we purchased a year ago for $5000. The prospects for growth are good in this small town and we thank God for it.

BLUE RIDGE (cont'd)

winter months to the work in the Carolinas.

Next year the 7:00 period will be filled with Carolina preachers plus two of the 9:00 (pm) periods.

More displays from the Carolinas are encouraged. In fact, a wide-awake congregation may have its own display.

The "Leslie G. Thomas Day" brought joy to the hearts of everyone. It was good to see brother Thomas buzzing around like a young man, which we are sure he still is in heart and spirit.

J. M. Powell, Director of the Encampment this year, was most cooperative and gracious toward the Carolinas and the suggestions which we made. Truly, if there were any present who did not have encouragement for our work, we did not see or hear them.

Let us plan next year to have a larger group from the Carolinas than any other place. We can do this.

Next year's dates are June 22-26.

RALEIGH, N. C.
Bill Shelton, Reporting

June has been a month of planning for the congregation in Raleigh. Preliminary drawings have been made for a worship building to accommodate the colored Christians in this city. The building will consist of an auditorium to seat approximately 130, six classrooms, baptistry, and nursery. It will be built in Rochester Heights, a growing subdivision for colored people.

We were made to rejoice on June 2 when two were added to the Lord's church in Henderson, N. C. This work is partially supported by the church in Raleigh. Bro. Ed Woodhouse, one of our deacons, preaches for the Henderson congregation. The attendance at Henderson is averaging between 20 and 25 and they are planning a gospel meeting in the fall.

Vacation Bible School will be conducted

RALEIGH, N. C. (cont'd)

here beginning June 24 and continuing through June 28. Plans are completed for this effort and we are expecting a record attendance at Henderson at every session.

Bro. and Sis. Larry Leslie identified themselves with this congregation on June 16. They recently moved to Raleigh from Rochester, Michigan. Bro. Leslie previously taught at Michigan Christian College and is doing graduate work at North Carolina State.

Our attendance averages for May were 138 for Bible Study, 161 for morning worship, 105 for evening worship and 88 for Wed. Bible Study. The contribution for May averaged $470.29.

Bro. Paul Southern, head of the Bible Department at Abilene Christian College will conduct a gospel meeting in Raleigh August 25 through August 30. Several additional activities are planned for that week including an area-wide youth meeting at which Bro. Southern will discuss Christian Education. Later announcements will give the time of these meetings.

CLEMMONS, N. C.
Warners Chapel Congregation
Bill Perkins, Reporting

Peggy and I will soon end three years work with this church. Plans for a bigger and better work in the future are being made. Responses have been in the 40's, including 30 baptisms and 15 restorations to date. The roll has had a net gain of only about two dozen, due to some deaths and moving of memberships. We hope to start training courses for (1) New converts (2) Personal Work-Cottage Classes (a few couples are helping now), (3) Training for Leadership Course.

The Bible School average has increased from 114 to in the 150's currently, with a record of 175. We have closed the gap considerably between the Bible School and Assembly attendance and we have had a noticable increase in all services.

CLEMMONS, N. C. (cont'd)

The report about the mission meetings, in which I preached, at Lexington and Ashboro were lost. There were three responses at both places. The church here will support me in salary for mission meetings this year. Only my expenses need be met by the church requesting my services. I will be glad to help any needful place with an extra meeting. There have been nine responses here the last three months; including Methodists, Baptists, and Lutherans. One was the Lutheran Sunday School Supt. Recently, as an extra meeting, I preached in a week's series here on "Religious Unity". About four dozen nonmembers came, the largest number to attend one of our meetings for several years. This was the result of our advertising regularly through the mail and our Sunday radio program, together with good work several members did in bringing visitors. Since the church has not thought it could afford two meetings previously, we hope this plan will make such possible. Warners Chapel is inviting all to our meeting August 4-11, and to the All-Day-Labor-Day program in Sept. More will be said about this later.

CHEROKEE, N. C.
Chester A. Hunnicutt, Reporting

Cherokee Workers Wanted

Our month long meeting in Cherokee, N. C. will begin June 30th. We need 50 workers each week. Some will be teaching Bible Classes, others will be doing house to house personal work, some will be sizing, sorting, and giving out clothes.

We expect one of our best meetings this year. Carl Shetters, V. P. Black, La-

CHEROKEE, N. C. (cont'd)

mar Plunket, and Basil Overton will do the preaching in the Cherokee meeting. The Pinkley brothers will do the preaching at Snow Bird under a tent. If you can help write to me at Box 42.

Two Indians have been baptized recently.

WAYNESVILLE, N. C.
LeFaire Hotel
James C. Castleberry, Reporting

Our Vacation Bible School was held June 17-21. Our gospel meeting will be July 1 -7 with Dan G. Moore of Cleveland, Miss. doing the preaching.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS
Billy Davidson, Editor
Route 6, Box 444
North Charleston, S. C.

BAMBERG, S. C.
Carl Evans, Reporting

On August 26, 1962 the Lord's church had its beginning here in Bamberg, S. C. We began with sixteen members, and since that time there have been ten baptism's with one placing membership. We now have thirty members.

We have purchased three lots, 100 by 150 feet deep within 500 feet of #301 Highway. We believe these lots to be in an excellent location and look forward to having our own building in the near future.

We are using the Jule Miller filmstrips with follow up lessons. This is proving successful as seven of our ten baptism's have come from denominational homes.

Our present meeting place is in the Bamberg Community Center, and because of this we cannot have a gospel meeting as we are not permitted to use this building only on Sunday morning and evening. We meet in one of the members homes for mid-week Bible study. Pray for us that we may obtain this much needed building. Should you desire to render help in a time of need we would be glad to give you our supporting congregations as reference. When in this area worship with us.

GREENVILLE, S. C.
Augusta Road Congregation
Carl Lancaster, Reporting

A Gospel Meeting was conducted here April 28-May 5. Bill Davidson of N. Charleston did the preaching and Burl Curtis of the Northeast congregation in this city directed the singing. Both the preaching and singing were of very fine quality.

Early in June the last of our Air Force families left due to the closing of Donaldson A. F. Base. In the past three months thirty-three members of this congregation have moved away, not counting the children or other non-members of these families. There are presently 62 members left in the congregation. Attendance and contributions have been decreasing gradually but it is still too early to know just what they will average after this loss.

The congregation has suffered a heavy blow but there are many dedicated, determined and working Christians left here. We believe the congregation has a very bright future and we predict that it will not be long until all of the empty spaces that have been vacated will be filled.

FLORENCE, S. C.

A gospel meeting was held at Florence June 16th through June 23rd, with Duke Gregory of Lexington, Alabama doing the preaching. We have no report yet as to the results of that meeting.

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GEORGETOWN, S. C.
Elbert Schory, Jr., Reporting

During the year that we have been with the congregation here, we have had 10 baptisms and 5 restorations. Our attendance had held up quite well even though we have lost some 10 members during the past year and only gained two who moved in.

CAROLINA DIRECTORIES
Bill G. Smith, P. O. Box 72
Valdese, N. C.

All orders received for the directories up to this time have been shipped. We are sorry for the delay. We are asking that you help us by showing this book to others. Order today! I will be out of town part of July and August, but will mail your order as soon as I can.

CHARLESTON, S. C.
Billy Davidson, Reporting

On May 29 I made known to the brethren here our decision to move to Bristol, Va. to work with the State Street church. Our work with Durant Ave. has been the most pleasant and profitable we have ever done. I am glad to say that there is no trouble in this congregation that prompted our leaving, but we felt that a change would be better for the church and for us. A person to succeed us has not been chosen at this time and interested parties may contact me and I will give your inquiry to the brethren.

COLUMBIA, S. C. (Shandon)
W. E. Jennings, Reporting

T. A. Isaacs of New Orleans, Louisiana has just completed preaching in a gospel meeting which was held at the Shandon church of Christ, June 23rd through June 30th.

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- Trusting In Mercy, Page 4
- An Introduction to the Bible, Page 5
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- Thank God For Division?, Page 7

August, 1963 Volume 5, Number 8

EDITORIAL: LOCAL TALENT

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C.

Many congregations have been helped by imported talent but they are finding it more and more difficult to obtain. Now is the time to take a new look at the local congregation.

How much local talent is undeveloped? How much is unused? Surely there is enough talent in most congregations to completely fill the teacher and worker shortage if it is properly developed and utilized.

Why not take another long, hard look at the men in the congregation who could become full-time preachers? How many could be encouraged to preach on a part-time basis? As we look, let us have enough fore-sight to recognize those who perhaps will make elders or deacons. How is the Bible class teacher situation? In nearly every instance,. there are those who are not now teaching who could and would make better teachers than some who are now doing so. Let us use some good means to draw them out to greater service.

How much local talent do you have? How well has it been developed? All the talents of each member must be fully developed to meet the challenge of the ages.

Letters to The Editor

J. W. BRENTS, Nashville, Tennessee: Your editorial in the Carolina Messenger of Truth, entitled: "Maximum of Efficiency" is to my mind one of the most timely articles I have read in a long time. As I read it I thanked the Lord that there is such talent at work in the Carolinas where I have bestowed much labor. Knowing the situation of that field in the beginning, I rejoice every day at the wonderful progress that is being made and I thank God that so many fine young men are giving their lives to that long neglected field. May God give you more power and may you make that great inviting field your permanent home. My love to all of my old time friends and to all the brethren.

LEVI GENTRY, Deer Park, Texas: I became acquainted with your Carolina Messenger of Truth while I was with the church at Lenoir in a ten-day meeting in May. You Carolina brethren are to be commended for such an attractive and worthwhile publication. Success to you.

Our congregation is assisting financially with the Lenoir work. The meeting in which I engaged was financed about equally between Deer Park and Lenoir congregations. We hope to continue our assistance and possibly contribute even more to an evangelistic effort next year.

ROBERT W. LAWRENCE, Editor; North Atlantic Christian, Worchester 1, Mass.: My congratulations on the new appearance of the Carolina Messenger of Truth. The improvement should enhance the effectiveness of your journal.

We need to get more Christian journals in the homes of members of the church. May God bless you as we strive to do this and build up Christians on their most holy faith.

(see page 7)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

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WE NEED ENCOURAGEMENT

Tom Bolick, Chester, S. C.

There are seasons in life that makes the world seem a prison and man a helpless creature before the angry elements. We all reach points of dismalness and disallusionment. It is then that we need encouragement.

The word encouragement means to inspire with courage, to give hope, to animate, to hearten and to cheer up. Literally it means to put courage in another. The Hebrew writer taught, "Exhort one another daily." (Heb. 3 : 13). Williams' translation renders it, "But day by day, as lone as 'Today' shalt last, continue to encourage another." There are numerous examples in the Scriptures relating the encouragement given to others. Notice the following: God instructs Moses to "encourage and strengthen" Joshua, his successor. (Deut. 3:28). David, nearing the end of his life, spoke to his son, Solomon, saying, "I go the way of all the earth; be strong therefore, and show thyself a man; and keep the charge of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies..." (I Kings 2:2, 3). In Acts 4 we read of Joses whose name was changed to Barnabas, which means "son of consolation," or, "son of encouragement." He encouraged others, therefore, they called him Barnabas. We need more men like Barnabas today. When John the Baptist was imprisoned by Herod, Jesus sent him words of encouragement. (Matt. 11:4, 5). Jesus spoke to the lame, the palsied and sin sick with these words, "Be of good cheer." Wherever Jesus went, he brought hope and cheer to the hearts of men.

The Christian should be a Barnabas. Paul instructs, "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves." (Rom. 15:1).

Some are weak physically and need our patience and kindness. Many have been on the verge of death, but received new courage in the words of another and willed to live.

Some are weak spiritually and need stablizing in their efforts to walk uprightly. "Support the weak, be patient toward all men." (I Thess. 5:14).

Some are overtaken in wrong-doing. They stumble and fall into sin. We should be more ready to help than to censure. It has been said, "Correction does much, but encouragement does more." The philosopher, Goethe, said, "Encouragement after censure is as the sun after a shower." Paul was concerned about this in Galatians 6 when he spoke of restoring the erring brother and helping him bear his burdens. It is necessary to deal with the erring family, but it must be tempered with tenderness and compassion.

Think of the many fine opportunities and programs that never receive encouragement. They often die because of it. Titus, a preacher, was admonished by Paul, "Be ready to every good work." (Tit. 3:1). Can it be said of us, "They helped every one his neighbor; and every one said to his brother, Be of good courage." (Isa. 41:6). The good is often discouraged by those with perhaps good intentions, but are fearful of a challenge. Fear is disguised as concern. Our young people feel insecure after hearing about sacrifices that are demanded of those who would preach. They turn to the secular for "security." Many unwittingly discourage the establishment of the Lord's church by speaking of a particular place as a "hard place." Jerusalem was a city filled with prejudice, but God chose it in which to begin His church. Po-

(see page 7)

TRUSTING IN MERCY

Bill Shelton, Raleigh, N. C.

A fine Christian man, with whom I am acquainted, once made this statement to me, "Without God's mercy we stand no more chance of obtaining eternal life than an oak tree beside the road." Certainly every child of God would agree with this statement because mercy is a disposition to pardon the guilty. This disposition is most apparent characteristic of our God. Cervantes, who is generally regarded as the greatest figure in Spanish literature, wrote, "Among the attributes of God, although they are all equal, mercy shines with even more brilliancy than justice."

It is comforting indeed to lie down to rest at night and be assured that we are recipients of God's mercy. However, there are certain conditions on which the Christian may safely trust in God's mercy, and we must guard against relying on His mercy without meeting the conditions.

In order to safely rely on the mercy of God we must first of all be convicted of our guilt. Isaiah was convicted of his guilt as he was permitted to visualize the Lord of hosts. You will recall that he cried out "Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips..." (Isa. 6:5). The apostle Paul expressed his conviction of guilt in this statement to Timothy: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief" (I Tim. 1:15). No, we cannot trust in the mercy of God unless we truly feel our guilt because mercy is exercised only where there is guilt.

A second condition that must be met if we rely on the mercy of God is we must be willing to repent. II Cor. 7:10 teaches us that Godly sorrow worketh repentence. Since Christ has commanded that we repent or perish, then a feeling of sorrow for the sinfulness of our lives is necessary. We cannot hope to continue to sin and expect God's mercy toward us to be active in our salvation. This attitude would make a mockery of the commands of God. Very often we feel that as Christians we have fulfilled our need to repent. But the steps that place an individual in the Body of Christ, place that person in a relationship with God that enables him to realize more fully his need for continually repenting. Certainly this relationship makes repentence easier for it puts us in a covenant relationship with the Father. Nevertheless, if we rationalize our weaknesses and lose sight of our need to ask God's forgiveness, we have lost the saving power of our Christianity. The mercy of God is shown more fully as He forgives his children time after time, as they stumble, fall, and rise again.

An old lady once appealed to Napoleon on behalf of her son who had been convicted of treason. Napoleon refused her request to spare his life on the grounds that "justice must be carried out." To this reply the lady answered, "I do not ask for justice, but for mercy." When the ruler considered this statement, he agreed to spare the man's life. Let none of us rely on what we consider is justice, when we should be counting on mercy. If God showed justice toward us there would be no hope. But since God is merciful, obedience to his commands and faithfulness to his cause can bring about our salvation.

How much can the Christian rely on the mercy of God? Completely when the Law of God is upheld in our thinking and exercised in our lives. The New Law is a law of mercy; the Old Law was a law of threatening. The Old Law was transitory; the New Law permeates the thoughts. Because of these superior aspects of the New Law, it becomes the culmination of all God's mercy toward us. As such it becomes the real secret of our salvation.

An Introduction To The Bible

Ray Moses, Greenville, S. C.

Suppose you wanted to make a blur or blot on a piece of paper. You could go right ahead and splash or spill ink or liquid shoe polish on the paper, or you could dab them with a bit of a rag. The blur or blot would not look nice, but you could make it with very little thought or care.

Now suppose you wished to draw something as simple as a Valentine heart or five-pointed star and wished it to look nice on the page. You would need to do some thinking before you began drawing. How large should your drawing be? Where should you place it on the page? Should it be a mere outline or should it be colored? If you chose to color it, what color would look nicest?

In order for your drawing to be successful, you would need to continue using thought and care till the drawing was finished.

By comparing your blur or blot with the heart or star, you will see that some shapes could almost happen by accident while others require care and thought.

If you crushed rocks with a hammer, the shapes of the pieces might appear to be a matter of chance. Mere hammering would never produce a watch or a barometer. A good deal of thought and careful work goes into the making of such instruments.

Now, suppose you pick a violet or some other small flower or catch some insect such as a moth or a butterfly. Do these things belong to a class of objects that could happen? Or do they belong to a type of objects that required care in the making? The more you learn about flowers and insects the more evidences you can find of intelligence on the part of the Power who made them.

Sherwood Eddy and other scholars have told us that every tribe of people ever found in any of the continents or islands of the world have believed in one or more gods who created the order, beauty and wonder of the things to be seen in nature.

But barbarians and savages are not the only people who have believed that there is a great Thinker back of nature.

The great Roman orator, Cicero, said that if we imagined people who had lived underground all their lives, when they first came to the surface of the earth and saw the heavenly bodies with their orderly movements, they would exclaim, "No doubt there are gods and these are their wonderful works."

A great American scientist, Louis Agassiz, stated, "When we see in nature evidence of thought not our own we must believe in a personal Thinker other than ourselves."

Liebig, the German chemist who started people to using commercial fertilizers, said, "I would rather believe all the fables in the Talmud and the Koran than to believe that this universal frame is without a mind."

Ralph Waldo Emerson, Whom some have called America's greatest thinker, exclaimed, "Nature is too thin a screen. The glory of the omnipresent God bursts through everywhere."

To get a fuller idea of what he meant, study the snow crystals in an autumn storm, or the crystals of gem stones. Take a microscope and look at a tiny strand of alga and see the crystal-like walls surrounding intertwined chloroplasts more beautiful than crepe paper streamers decorating a banquet hall. Or turn a telescope on a light blur in the heavens and see it turn into a cluster of vari-colored jewels. "For one star differeth from another in glory." (I Co. 15:41).

"The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament sheweth his handiwork." (Ps. 19:1).

VENTURE OF FAITH

C. E. Mannon, Greenville, S. C.

Now meeting in Greenville, N. C. is a new congregation whose existence and progress through two years is attributed to a great venture of faith. In 1960, like Barton W. Stone over 150 years ago, a group of Christians from Highland View church of Christ in Oak Ridge, Tennessee began to turn their attention toward eastern N. C. and "a very barren wilderness to do mission work." They viewed numerous counties and populated areas where not a single effort was being made to restore N. T. Christianity. Greenville, being an educational center enjoying economic growth and becoming somewhat a "hub" for the area, offered much promise as a focal point for a concentrated work. But only two families were temporarily located here.

Aware that these faithful Christians provided a nucleus for a good beginning, the urgency of launching a new work--so long neglected--became apparent; thus, on July 5, 1961, seven people met in a private home in the spirit of other great heroes of faith who "built an altar and there called upon the name of the Lord."

Public meeting places were difficult to obtain and rentals high, but wisdom was shown in selecting a respectable location (Rotary Building) for services while plans materialized for a permanent location. From the beginning, regular services were supplemented with concentrated teaching programs like radio evangelism, gospel meeting series, cottage meetings and newspaper articles. Determined efforts were made to reach a highly churched community already well saturated with doctrines of those "having a zeal, but not according to knowledge" of truth. The eyes of a great brotherhood were on this effort, and their prayers to the end that success would come. After "planting and watering, God gave the increase!" And as there came responses to the gospel, there was felt a renewed urgency to "rise up and build." Building lots (well located on a U. S. highway) were purchased Mar. 20, 1962 and final payment made in July of same year. During July, negotiations were underway to build "a house for the Lord," and actual construction began Labor Day, followed with first services in the new building on November 4. When formal opening was held on Nov. 22, emphasis was laid to the desire that there be expressed in the lives of those touched by this work the beauty of a Christ-directed life, symbolized by the beauty of the building and that the ideal of our restoring N. T. Christianity ever remain the consuming challenge of those using these facilities.

Early in 1963, plans developed for building a preacher's home on the grounds purchased for same with the structure being completed and occupied by June 1. This move delivered the church from all rental obligations and turned all such funds toward the liquidation of indebtedness incurred in the building program. It is obvious that the brethren responsible for these decisions took the long range view--and in which there was total agreement.

Now, those two original families are transferred, but they "yet speak" along with that great host of Christians having fellowship in this effort to build for the Lord. Close observers conclude that the key to success in so great a venture of faith lies in a close working relationship between the supporting church--particularly its eldership and preacher--and the membership--particularly the preacher--of the new work. A supporting church, kept informed of its role and sympathetic

(see page 16)

THANK GOD FOR DIVISION??

Tony Forrest, Taylorsville, S. C.

Certainly not. From the pulpits of the land and from our mass media, men are often heard to praise God for the religious division in the world. The reasoning behind such statements is "that everyone might go to church where people believe like he does." How close to blasphemy can we get... to thank God for something which is contrary to his very nature... to thank God for something which exists as the work of Satan. The Savior prayed for unity "that they all may be one," but men thank God that all are not.

Religious division results in confusion. An honest truth seeker, confronted by all the dogmas and articles of faith in the secretarian world, is more likely to become an atheist than a Christian. "Confusion" is a good name for the church at Corinth when Paul wrote his first letter to them. They were perhaps proud of their little sectarian groups, but the apostle rebuked them sharply for it. Could God, who created the universe and keeps it running, possibly be the author of such a blunder as to darken men's eyes that they cannot see the truth.

When Paul wrote what was probably his last letter, he spoke with disdain concerning the coming time when men having itching ears would seek out and hear those teachers who would agree with what they wanted to hear.

Praise God that our money can be divided into halves, quarters, tens, and hundreds. Praise God that we are able to divide our land between us. Praise God that we are able to divide the year into days. But praise God for religious division--NO!! People say that we are worshipping the same Lord but the same passage which says there is one Lord (Eph. 4:4-6) also says there is ONE BODY. This body is the church (Col. 1:18). In religion we have to begin with one, and the more divisions we make of that one, the worse off we become. Imagine Christ's body cut in more than 300 pieces.

There are those who openly confess that they do not believe all that "their church" teaches. Do you believe all that the Bible teaches? If you do, then why not follow the Bible and forget about "your church." Remember that you are dealing with the eternal destiny of your soul.

ENCOURAGEMENT (cont'd)

tential leaders of the church are discouraged by hearing criticisms leveled against the present leaders. Who wants to let himself in for the abuse of critical Christians? The ten spies that gave the "evil report" to the children of Israel caused 603,000 men plus others never to see the land that "flowed with milk and honey." How many will we keep out of the heavenly Canaan because we offer discouragement?

Even though no one offers encouragement, Christians ask, "Why are thou cast down, O my soul? and why are thou disquieted in me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance." (Psa. 42:5). If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Rom. 8:31)

"Faint not; the miles to heaven are but few and short." (Rutherford).

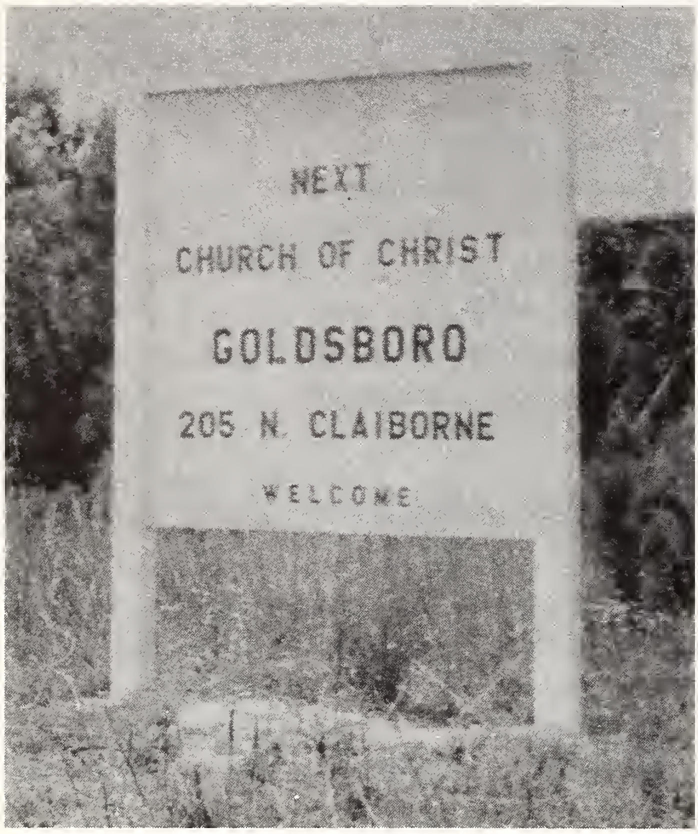
Letters to The Editor (cont'd)

LESLIE G. THOMAS, Asheville, N. C.: I want to commend you for the very fine work you and the others are doing in getting out the paper.

--Renew Your Subscriptions--

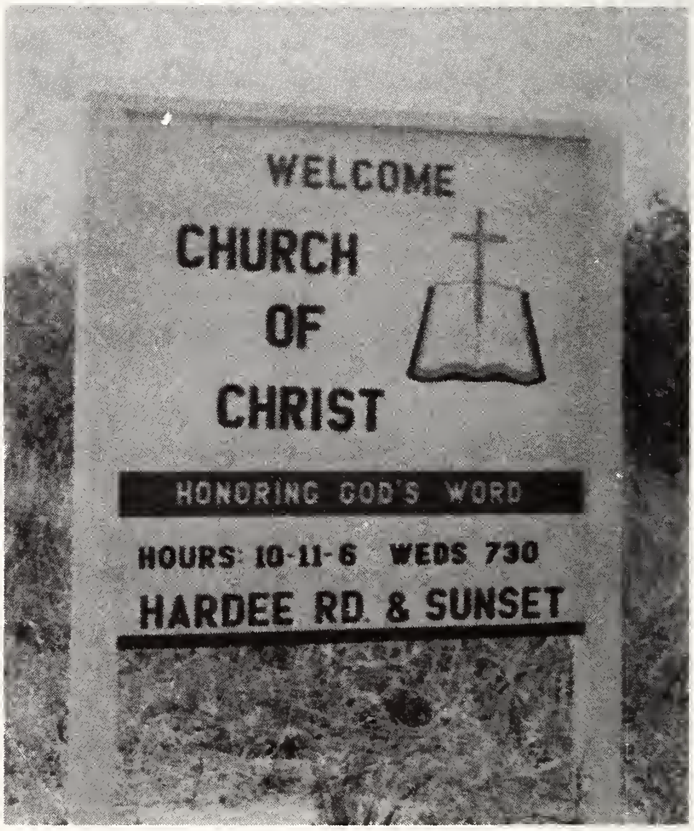
New Idea In Highway Signs

Noyles E. Sewell, Kinston, N. C.


NEXT
CHURCH OF CHRIST
GOLDSBORO
205 N. CLAIBORNE
WELCOME

The other side calls attention to the next Church of Christ. The sign must be properly placed so that this side can be read going toward Goldsboro. Brother Sewell built both signs the church has erected.

These pictures (see below) are both sides of the same sign on Highway 70 West of Kinston, North Carolina. This side is seen traveling toward Kinston. The colors are black, blue, red and yellow on white.


WELCOME
CHURCH OF CHRIST
HONORING GOD'S WORD
HOURS: 10-11-6 WEDS 730
HARDEE RD. & SUNSET

BIG TENT MEETING

FLORENCE, S. C.

SEPTEMBER 15-29, 1963

Jack Fogarty and Ermon Bain, Evangelists

8:00 O'CLOCK NIGHTLY

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of Carolina Christian Publications, Inc. will be held in Charlotte, N. C., Friday, November 22. Jim Bill McInteer, Business Manager for the 20th Century Christian, will be the guest speaker. Directors and Advisory members are requested to be present. All other interested persons are urged to attend.

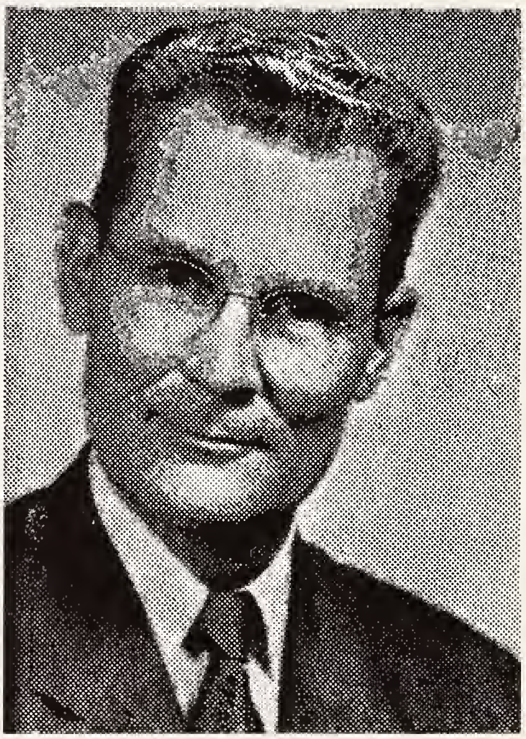
Directors and Advisory members perhaps should plan to take Friday off from your regular work. More details will be given later. We believe this is a meeting that you won't want to miss.

A date to remember!

August 25 thru August 30

THE RALEIGH CHURCH OF CHRIST

Brooks and Rosedale Streets



presents:

DR. PAUL SOUTHERN

Head of the Department of Bible and Religious Education at Abilene Christian College, Abilene, Texas, in a series of Gospel Meetings Nightly at 7:30 P.M.

SPECIAL AREA WIDE YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING at 3:00 P.M., Sunday, August 25 in the interest of Christian Education. Please bring ALL your High School and College Students to this meeting.

Sunday Services:

Bible Study	**10:00 A.M.**
Worship	**11:00 A.M.**
Evening	**7:30 P.M.**

Gospel Meeting....

Raleigh Church of Christ

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

BILL SHELTON, *N.C. News Editor* BILLY DAVIDSON, *S.C. News Editor*

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

BILL SHELTON, Reporting: The following is an excerpt from the Greenville Quarterly report. It might well be the theme from the news from the Carolinas:

"Believing that an informed people will be a responsible as well as appreciative people, the church now meeting in Greenville, North Carolina, on U. S. 264 By-Pass at Eastwood, and pledged to exalting New Testament Christianity, sends forth this Quarterly Report to that host of brethren concerned about spreading the Lord's Kingdom "as water does cover the sea." When you read, be grateful and take courage, for as the faith of many has spoken in the work here in progress, so hath the Lord spoken well: "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

Belated congratulations are in order for Bro. C. E. Mannon, the preacher at Greenville on the birth of a son, Jeffrey Dale Mannon, on May 28. Attendance at Greenville is represented by the following averages over the past three months: Bible Study 35, Morning Worship 40, Evening 26, Midweek 22. The contribution has averaged $65.85.

Progress at Greenville over the past three months includes occupancy of the new preacher's home on June 1. The money that was previously spent for rental payments is being applied to the indebtedness incurred in the building program. All mail sent to the congregation at Greenville should be addressed to P. O. Box 565. A general resume of the work at Greenville for the past two years has been compiled by Bro. Mannon and will soon be published in the Messenger.

Bro. Jesse Melton, preacher at Wilson, completed a meeting in Tennessee during July that resulted in 3 baptisms and 3 restorations. He informs us that the congregation in Wilson worshipped for the first time in their new building on July 21. A meeting is planned for the month of October with Bro. Jimmy Dorris of the West Nashville Heights congregation doing the preaching. The dates for this meeting will be announced later. The church in Wilson has been strengthened in recent months by the Bill Cooke family that has moved to Wilson from Alabama. Bro. Cooke is an excellent song leader and well grounded in God's Word. He filled the pulpit in Wilson during Bro. Melton's absence. Attendance for the first service in the new building in Wilson was 21. May God bless this work.

CHARLOTTE, Plaza

NOYLE BURTON, Reporting: Bro. Paul Kidwell has just recently returned from Stephenville, Newfoundland, where he conducted a gospel meeting from June 30 through July 9. Bro. Kidwell reported that the congregation there is composed primarily of Air Force men and their families. There was an attendance the first Lord's Day of 63. There was one baptism and one restoration during this meeting. The lady baptized is the wife of an Air Force man stationed at Harmon Field in Stephenville. She had never known a Bible in her home until coming to Stephenville. She was reached through her children who attended Bible School at the church. This meeting was made possible by the Grand Bay, Alabama church at the Theo church of Christ near Corinth, Mississippi. We hope to enlarge upon this effort in the future.

The attendance at the Plaza seems to be at a much higher figure since we now have a regular gospel preacher laboring with us. The goal of 110 has been set for Wednesday night service and attendance on Wed. is already ranging around 100. The work at the Plaza seems to be progressing very well.

HIGH POINT

FRANK R. MILTON, Reporting: The church here was left in very good condition from the labors of brother Olan Hicks, and there is every reason why we should move ahead very rapidly.

We have made several goals as follows:

1. Raise our contribution to $200.00 by Sept. 1. (It was $106.00 when I moved here three weeks ago.) (We have already made this last Sunday-$205.00.)
2. Find land upon which to build a building, and make down payment by June 1964.
3. Start new building by December 1, 1965.

My new address is:

Frank R. Milton
823 Hickory Chapel Road
High Point, N. C. Phone: 883-6972

(Note: The mailing address of the church here has been changed from the downtown box number to my house.

BRYSON CITY

CARLTON W. ELKINS, Reporting: The church here held a Sing Sunday afternoon July 7. This was the first one held here. We also have a three day meeting, the second of the year, scheduled for July 26-28. I will be doing the preaching. The young people of the congregation have painted and redecorated our meeting place and class rooms. We now have a weekly radio program over the Sylva, N. C. Station WMSJ, at 10:30 each Sunday morning. It is paid for by area contributors who wish to remain anonymous.

ALEXANDER

MRS. CARL HUNTER, Reporting: Our meeting of June 9 through 14 held by Bro. Leslie G. Thomas was indeed edifying to the Church and we hope may take root and bear fruit from those who visited with us, that are not in the Lord's Church.

One young man was baptized. We are eagerly looking forward to Bro. Bob Sorrell's arrival to hold a meeting for us July 21 through 28. Anyone who can, please visit us during this meeting.

WINSTON-SALEM

CAROLYN S. ELDRIDGE, Reporting: We enjoyed a most successful Vacation Bible School last month, with attendance being at an all time high. Of 186 students enrolled, 103 of them were from families outside the church. There also were nearly 1/4 of the congregation actively participating in the school.

Now plans are being made and executed for visiting these new contacts and interesting them further in the church.

The visitation program is being carried on through the four "zones" into which the congregation has been divided. Where one lives decided which zone he is in. Thus with smaller groups to work with, we can work better together. Each zone has a regular meeting time, usually beginning with a covered dish supper.

So far this year there have been 15 baptisms.

LEXINGTON

WALTER E. NEAL, Reporting: We closed one of the finest VBS I ever worked in on July 12. There was fine cooperation with the teachers, children, and parents. The average for the five day school was 43. This may seem small to some, but for us, it was real good.

Zeal, attendance and collection is on the increase. There is more hope for the church in Lexington than at any previous time. We have some new talent from Texas and from Thomasville, N. C.

TRYON

KENNETH WILLIS, Reporting: Although there were no responses to our Lord's invitation, we consider our June gospel meeting with Charles E. Cobb a successful one indeed. There were non-members visiting every service during the series, even with the heavy rains that prevailed during the week. The members here were strengthened in the faith, and we know that the seed has been sown. Our advertising was well received, particularly the "Capsule Pacts for Survival" method. Likewise the reception given our daily devotional program on WTYN was such that we hope it will be possible soon to make this a regular part of the work here.

Our VBS is scheduled for August 5-9.

MOCKSVILLE

CARMEN WALKER, Reporting: The month of June was a very busy one for our congregation at North Main Street as both our Vacation Bible School and a meeting were held.

Our VBS was held June 10-14. Trying something different this year we had our school at night and had very good attendance with an average of 104 for the week. On Friday night all parents were invited to visit the classes with their children.

Bro. Paul Sikes, preacher for the Greensboro church of Christ was the speaker for our meeting held June 23-July 3. Although we had no baptisms we feel that the church was edified in many ways by the fine lessons which were so ably presented each night by Bro. Sikes. Many visitors, both local and from neighboring congregations, attended, some coming back several times.

Since last reporting to the Messenger, our radio program on local station WSDC has changed times. We now have an 8:00 spot on Sunday morning with lessons being taught by brother Conchin from 8 to 8:15, and 15 minutes of recorded music from 8:15 to 8:30 being sponsored by the Jericho church of Christ.

Curtains have been put in about all of our class rooms to brighten them up. Also, bulletin boards have been put up in all of our rooms and the teachers and pupils are doing splendid jobs in keeping something interesting displaying at all times.

VALDESE

MADELINE C. BROWN, Reporting: The most important and meaningful news we are reporting in July happened in June.

We have just participated in our Vacation Bible School, while Betty and A. T. Pate were here to help us. They both did a grand job, as well as the teachers from this area who taught in the school. Of special interest, and receiving notable praise was a teaching aid depicting "THE CREATION". We call it the "flip over" which describes the way of showing the six days of the creation, and the seventh "God Rested" and He now reigns supreme, represented by a golden color sunburst effect over the whole picture. Each day's work is individually pictured, encased in plastic, and arranged in such a manner so at the end the whole picture is seen. The idea was conceived by Ruth Welborn, one of our teachers. Assisting her were Carley Welborn and Madeline Brown. Bill Smith, with the aid of Brother Saunders of Lenoir, prepared an easel on which to hang the flip-over.

The average attendance for our VBS was 58.4. The average for the ten services of our meeting was 55, with the highest attendance of 76 on Tuesday and Sunday evenings. Thanks to the neighboring congregations for boosting our attendance at these meetings.

Although we can see no visible result of the meeting, we are assured through His Word that "God will give the increase" and we must have faith to believe that and while doing our utmost to spread the boundaries of His Kingdom, we may patiently await the results. According to the Bible, Christians will always be in the minority but everyone who will, may come, for God is not willing that anyone should perish, but that all have everlasting life.

We are looking forward to the Carolina Bible Camp this year. Two of our teachers plan to be counselors, Janie Burns and Madeline Brown, and our minister is one of the directors. Almost a dozen children plan to go from here for at least one week.

RALEIGH

BILL SHELTON, Reporting: The Lord's Church in Raleigh has experienced fine growth thus far in 1963. Since January 1 we have had 6 baptisms, 3 restorations, and 9 families have identified themselves with us. We thank God for this increase.

Our fall meeting is scheduled for August 25 through August 30 with Bro. Paul Southern doing the preaching. Many activities are planned in connection with this meeting, including an area-wide Youth meeting at 3 P.M. on August 25. This meeting will be designed to impress the young people in this area with the importance of Christian education. We are asking that the congregations within driving distance of Raleigh make every effort to attend.

The attendance figures for the month of July are as follows: Bible Study 123; Morning Worship 147; Evening Worship 94; Wed. B.S. 90. Average contribution for the month was $443.

ABERDEEN

E. C. LOCKERMAN, Reporting: The Aberdeen congregation has just completed all the necessary repairs on our building and painting it inside and outside. We are very proud of all we have accomplished and as some have remarked, "It doesn't look like the same building."

We are trying to get sufficient support to enable us to have a full time preacher by January 1964. This we need very badly. We are the only congregation in Moore County and several neighboring counties. We have two families from Raeford and one from Red Springs to worship with us. We realize the great need and the opportunities for a preacher to work in our immediate area.

The church at Riverside in Columbia, Tennessee held a meeting for us, July 21-28th. Brother Charles Tidwell did the preaching and Brother William Tankersley directed the song service.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

NORTH CHARLESTON

BILLY DAVIDSON, Reporting: Our plans are now definite as to the moving dates to Bristol, Tennessee. Our furniture will be picked up on August 23 and our last day here will be August 25. We plan to leave after worship services that night and drive on to Bristol on Monday. We hate to leave South Carolina but we feel we have a wonderful place to work. The leadership of elders means more to me than anything else.

I want to thank you for the kindness you have shown me and I shall retain pleasant memories of our association together which has been far too infrequent. I'll try to keep in touch while in Tennessee and it may be that we will have opportunity to return sometime in the future. May God bless you as you continue to labor faithfully for Him.

GREENVILLE, Augusta Road

CARL LANCASTER, Reporting: In recent weeks the congregation here has had the following unusual opportunities. A group of young people and the minister from a nearby Presbyterian Church attended the adult Bible class on Wednesday evening with the request that the teacher, Marion Moon, explain why he was a member of the church of Christ. This writer was later invited to speak to the youth group of the St. John Methodist Church on the distinctive position of the church of Christ. On both occassions the young people were given opportunity to ask questions and they submitted a number of intelligent questions.

In our recent Vacation Bible School 132 enrolled and attendance averaged 115. Each year this congregation concentrates on having as many students as possible from homes not affiliated with churches of Christ. Again this year more than 50 per cent of the student body came from such homes. Another encouraging feature of this year's school was that a good percentage of such students were in their teens.

BAMBERG

L. L. RAWLINGS, Reporting: This congregation began meeting in the Community Center with 16 members, August 26, 1963. At the present time the total membership is 29. Regular services are held each Lord's Day morning and evening, with Bible Study classes on Thursday nights. Cottage meetings are conducted on four other evenings each week. The congregation maintains a food pantry and clothing bank and our minister, Brother Carl Evans, writes a weekly column, "Think On These Things," for the local newspaper. The Church sponsors a Bible Correspondence course through the newspaper and the local radio station. A monthly check of $20.00 is sent by the congregation to the Tennessee Orphans' Home. The Herald of Truth is carried by the local radio station. Contributions average weekly $65.00. The Church has purchased three lots and has paid in full for them $2,000.00; in addition, the building fund now has a total of approximately $2,165.00. Special effort is presently being put forth to obtain sufficient funds to make feasible the beginning of a building.

GAFFNEY

MARVIN BRYANT, Reporting: I am now receiving The Carolina Messenger of Truth and I appreciate the opportunity to know of the work and progress of our brethren here.

We purchased on faith and credit two buildings from the Episcopal church. We have now renovated this property and it is serving us well.

Since our work began May 1, 1963 we have been blessed with three baptisms. We seem to have an open door to study with our religious neighbors. For this we thank God.

Bro. Wayne Poucher from Washington, D. C. was with us in a three day meeting July 14-16, 1963 and he is a most able gospel preacher and a dedicated Christian. He was a great help to us in this mission field. As a result of his being here we are studying with several families.

We are looking forward to Bro. Rex Turner, Pres. of Alabama Christian College, being with us for a week in August.

SPARTANBURG, Fairview Church of Christ, P. O. Box 671

F. G. SMITH, Reporting: Roy Burgess of Woodruff closed a good meeting here June 23rd with one baptism. The average attendance was about 55. R. G. Moreland of Greenville, S. C. is working with us on a part time basis.

We had a record attendance of 55 June 16th. The small group of Christians here at Fairview have been meeting in a damp basement for more than four years. We need some help to build the auditorium. The church here can furnish most of the labor. The following is the approximate cost of materials needed to build the block walls, put the roof on, and put in the windows and doors.

Block Walls.........	$245.70
Roof...............	1,200.00
Win. & Doors..... .	500.00
Total..........	$1,945.70

If you or the congregation where you worship would like to have a part in this work, it will be greatly appreciated.

We started a building fund June 16th. We have only $50.40 so far; it will take long time to raise the money needed, without some help from our brethren.

MYRTLE BEACH

GEORGE S. SMITH, Reporting: Above is a picture of the new church building in Myrtle Beach located at 44 and Little River road, north west of the highway going through Myrtle Beach. It has seven class rooms and nursery and another room we can use for a study and place to keep communion and supplies.

We are now in position to offer the many visitors that come to Myrtle Beach a respectable comfortable building in which to worship God. This is an invitation for all who visit Myrtle Beach to come worship with us.

The church's new P. O. Box is 1975.

WOODRUFF

OTTIS L. QUALLS, Reporting: After four years with the Corinth congregation at Woodleaf, I began work with the church in Woodruff the first Lord's Day of July. This work is being supported by the East Huntsville congregation in Huntsville, Alabama. The church here desires your prayers.

GREENVILLE, Edgewood

ERNEST THIGPEN, Reporting: We had a good Vacation Bible School in June with an average attendance of 122 per night. Also in June we enjoyed a very fine gospel meeting with Brother Carl Lancaster doing the preaching. During the meeting six of our young men obeyed the gospel of Christ, and one was restored to fellowship. Besides the responses during the meeting, we have had one to confess wrong and three others to obey the gospel.

I had the privilege of holding a meeting at the church in Anderson in July. There was one restoration during the meeting.

We are looking forward to our next gospel meeting. It is scheduled for October 20th through 27th. Brother Jim Woodruff of Little Rock, Arkansas will be the visiting Evangelist. Remember us in your prayers.

CHESTER

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: The church in Chester has been blessed with 13 baptisms of 1962. We are at the present, feeling the pain of summer vacations but we are holding our own. Our radio ministry, a Monday through Friday program, continues to produce questioning listeners

GREENVILLE, Northeast

BURL CURTIS, Reporting: The first of June I was in Northwestern Arkansas for a meeting and the first of July in Indiana.

We are thankful for the talent of the members at Northeast. This month Ray Moses, a retired school teacher, has an article in the Messenger.

Our meeting with Willard Conchin has been post-poned due to his moving to Huntsville, Alabama to teach in Madison Academy.

BLUERIDGE ENCAMPMENT

In the Annual Director's Meeting, three preachers from the Carolinas were named as directors: Burl Curtis, Leslie Thomas, and C. W. Bradley. J. M. Powell, Director of the Encampment this year wrote, "Let me encourage you to take the lead in promoting the Encampment in the Carolinas. I hope that upwards of 200 Carolinians can attend next year.

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NEW CONGREGATION (Cont'd)

to the situation, working with a new church, alert to its obligations, can make a happy fellowship for all. The church in Greenville, N. C. is now a permanent part of the community. Average attendance on Sunday morning is 40 with a contribution of $65.85. Greater acceptance is expected as Christians "let their light shine." Apart from extraordinary circumstances, church will be a mission point for some time, but, for that task before us, being reassured by the past, and very grateful, we press forward with faith in ourselves, our brethren and our Lord, unto whom we offer all the honor, glory and praise for "his goodness and for his wonderful works to the children of men."

BOOKS AVAILABLE

ABILENE, TEXAS: The number of persons using Abilene Christian College's John W. McGarvey Library has increased to 87 after a gain of 28 persons so far this summer.

At present about 500 books on religious subjects are available for loan by mail.

The library was made possible by a gift from a friend of the College who wanted to establish a circulating religious library at ACC. At present an order for about $600 worth of additional books is being made.

Persons currently participating in the loan-by-mail program represent 21 states including Hawaii.

Participants in the program, who are charged a $1 registration fee, receive a list of titles available in the McGarvey Library. Persons living outside of Abilene can borrow the books for four weeks by paying the postage both ways on the books.

Those interested in joining the program should contact Miss Callie Faye Milliken, Librarian, Abilene Christian College, Abilene, Texas.

1963 Carolina Church Directory
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Carolina
MESSENGER of TRUTH

SEPTEMBER, 1963 VOLUME 5, NUMBER 9

C. W. BRADLEY

In Tribute For An 18 Year Ministry to The Carolinas.

"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

EDITORIAL: McINTEER TO SPEAK

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C.

Jim Bill McInteer, Business Manager of the 20th Century Christian, will be the speaker at the Annual Meeting of Carolina Christian Publications, Inc. His subject will be, "The Effect of Religious Journalism in the Restoration Movement."

The Annual Meeting of Carolina Christian Publications, Inc., publishers of the Carolina Messenger of Truth, will be held Friday, November 22, 1963 in Charlotte, N. C. The evening portion will commence at 6:00 P.M. with dinner at Barclay Cafeteria in the Amity Garden Shopping Center on Independence Boulevard. Each person will be responsible for the cost of his meal.

Although our plans are only now being formed, the events of the day will perhaps include all the following:

1. Meeting of Directors
2. Combined meeting of Directors and Advisory Board
3. Dinner at Barclay Cafeteria
4. Speech by Jim Bill McInteer
5. Presentation of personnel
6. Presentation of awards (1) recognition award for best article (2) recognition award for person making most outstanding contribution.
7. Discussion of plans for the future.

This definitely can be one of the finest meetings of Christians ever held in the Carolinas. We have the greatest cause, the Cause of Christ. We have a good medium, the Messenger. Directors and Advisory Members are requested to be present; every Christian is encouraged to attend. Remember to make plans for your wife to come, too; children are welcome if you want to bring them.

Your time and expense will be more than repaid by either the speech or by the fellowship. Plan to come. Let us make it a very fine meeting one that will be a great encouragement to the work of the Lord in the Carolinas.

BROTHERHOOD NEWS COLUMN

Beginning with the October issue, Johnny Sewell will write regularly an article called "Brotherhood News." The information source will be most of the papers published by our brethren. This column should be very interesting and helpful since the majority of Christians in the Carolinas take very few of the papers.

GOING TO THE LIBRARY

This month the Messenger is going to every Christian College Library and to all public libraries in North and South Carolina. These visits will continue indefinitely. Our sincere thanks to every director, all advisory members, every subscriber and donor for making this possible.

BOLICK S. C. NEWS EDITOR

Tom Bolick of Chester, S. C. has replaced Billy Davidson as South Carolina News Editor. Davidson has recently moved to Bristol, Tennessee.

(see page 10)

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH
EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION STAFF:
Burl Curtis, Editor
Richard Eppley, Business Mgr.
Harold Scott, Circulation Mgr.
C. N. Womack, Advertising Mgr.
Tom Bolick, S. C. News Editor
Bill Shelton, N. C. News Editor

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Address all N. C. news to Bill Shelton, P. O. Box 5424, Raleigh, N. C. and all S. C. news to Tom Bolick, 150 Lancaster St., Chester, S. C. News items to be printed in a given month's issue should reach the news editors by the 20th day of the preceeding month.

Address all inquiries regarding advertising to C. N. Womack, P. O. Box 95, Spindale, N. C.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: Individual, $2.00 per year; club of five or more, $1.50 per year; quantity, 10c for 15 or more.

HE SAVED OTHERS

J. W. Brents, Nashville, Tennessee

There is an incident connected with the crucifixion of our Savior which touches me deeply. He had been nailed to the cross and was suffering the most intense agony. It seems that their hatred would have been satisfied and their malice gratified but no, they mock and deride him in his awful death.

Their charge, though uttered in mockery, was as true as could be. "He saved others, himself he cannot save." It was a cruel challenge. In the divinest sense he could not. We often say, "He could not be unkind." "He could not sell his good name." "The Christian cannot go into that saloon." "God cannot lie." The meaning is he could not afford to. Such behavior does not conform with the nature of God, nor does the Christian life conform to such an idea. Christ could not come down from the cross. If so, mankind would be doomed forever.

If only these wild rabbles could have grasped the meaning of their words! He was dying to save them. Oh blind leaders of the blind, Had they known, tears of penitence would have dimmed their eyes. But in sin they commit the awful deed.

Often the worst men give utterance to the greatest truths. "He saved others, himself he cannot save." Christ was born for this purpose (Luke 2:9-11). Again, "the son of man has come to seek and save the lost." To save men was the dream of his great life. He taught, he prayed, he spent his days seeking to draw all men to him. Never has such love been shown. Never has such sacrifice been made to save our souls from eternal ruin.

And now when we carefully reflect upon the whole matter, is not Christ's mission our mission? In a certain sense Christ is not the only savior. Every Christian is a savior. True, only the blood of Christ can save us from sin. But were we not called into the service of the Lord for this very purpose? Does not this treasure abide in earthen vessels? Are we not commanded to teach all nations? What others use does the Lord have for his people but to save souls? Oh my fellow Christians, how many stars will you have in your crown? How many souls have you helped to save?

The above being true let us notice two of the chief characteristics of the greatest soul winner this earth has ever known, Christ, our Lord.

1. He kept his work in mind. Never did he get side tracked from this idea. No difference to whom he was speaking or what was the subject they were discussing, he closed the subject by teaching his hearers that he was their long looked for Messiah and Savior. A beautiful example of this is Christ and the woman at Jacob's well. How easy it was for him to switch from the water which the woman came out to draw to the water which he would give. When one had received this water, he would never thirst again.

2. With Jesus there was a close walk always with his Father. There was no stain, blot or blur upon him matchless life. He did no sin niether was guile found upon his lips. The teachings of Jesus have not a parallel in the field of literature. But after all this marvelous teaching would not have availed anything had it not been undergirded by a sinless life. This has been the secret of his power over men through all the years and it will continue so until he comes again.

- - - - - - - - - - -

Plan to attend the Annual Meeting on November 22 in Charlotte, N. C.

INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE, No. 2

Ray Moses, Greenville, S. C.

HOW IS THE BIBLE DIFFERENT FROM OTHER BOOKS?

Parts of the Bible were written more than three thousand years ago. The newest part of the Bible is more than one thousand eight hundred years old. But with all of our science and technology of today we are not able to produce a book that sells as many copies as the Bible. Year after year it is the best seller! This is because so many millions of people believe that God speaks to us through the words of the Bible.

Here are a few tributes to the Bible that have been given by famous people:--

George Washington said of the Bible, "It is the pure and benign light of revelation."

Queen Victoria of England who ruled over about as many square miles of this earth as anyone ever did said of the Bible, "It is the secret of England's greatness."

Abraham Lincoln spoke of the Bible as "the best book that God has given to men."

President Woodrow Wilson said, "He that denies himself an intimate knowlege of the Bible has missed that our civilization has to offer."

The Bible is true to Geography. The Scriptures speak of a man "going down from Jerusalem to Jericho"--and the traveler from Jerusalem to Jericho actually descends 1800 feet in a few miles. The Scriptures speak of a storm coming "down" on Galilee, and the little Sea of Galilee is so surrounded by mountains that the only way a storm could reach it would be to come down the mountainsides.

The Bible is true to history. A friend of mine used to argue that the king, Belshazaar of the Book of Daniel, was a myth because the Babylonian monuments did not list such a king. Since he was the last of the Babylonian kings and the Medo-Persian who conquered Babylon would not be expected to build monuments to their enemy, the lack of record on a monument is not surprising. However, references to King Belshazaar has been found on relics dug up in Babylon--one being a prayer by a Babylonian king to the moon-god for his son Belshazaar. Findings of archeologists have so consistently confirmed the truth of the Scriptures that there is a saying, "The spade has never denied the Bible."

The Scriptures give an honest account of human actions. David, "a man after God's own heart," drifted away from right and committed a grievous sin, which the Bible records without any effort to gloss over the ugliness of his conduct. In an hour of weakness Peter denies his master and the fact is recorded without any making of excuses.

Perhaps the strongest proof of the inspiration of the Bible is the way it impresses honest-hearted people. Bible students generally believe that it contains the most perfect code for human conduct that can be found in the world.

A God whose power is seen in earthquakes and volcanoes and in the movement of heavenly bodies, a God whose love of beauty is seen in fern, and the flower and crystal, --such a God is not enough. Our human hearts long for eternal companionship, for forgiveness for sins, for hope for life beyond the grave.

Our bodies thirst--and there is water to satisfy this longing.

Our bodies hunger--and food is usually available to satisfy that hunger.

We long for companionship--and there are people who can be made our friends.

We have a hunger called religion--and that hunger is satisfied by the wondrous God revealed in the Bible.

Christian Worship: Preaching

Howard Winters, Wilmington, N. C.

In this study I want us to think of preaching as an act of Christian worship. I am aware, however, that the word "preaching" in not broad enough to cover all that is generally included in this act when the word is used. Perhaps the word edification would be a better one. But since we cannot make an exhaustive study, we must limit our thoughts to preaching.

PREACHING

Preaching is certainly a New Testament subject. Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15). Paul says, "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God... For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." (I Cor. 1:18,21). Thus the cause of Christ is depending upon preaching; if it ever ceases to be a preaching, teaching or a learning institution it will die.

Those who preach under the authority of Jesus are limited in subject matter. We cannot preach what we will but what He wills. Paul said of himself, "For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!" (I Cor. 9:16). In his charge to Timothy he said, "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort will all longsuffering and doctrine." (II Tim. 4:2). A curse was pronounced on those who would preach anything other than the gospel: "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you, let him be accursed." (Gal. 1:8). All preaching is vain unless it is the word of God: "And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." (I Peter 1:25).

Before one can be saved he must be taught--and preaching is teaching. Jesus said, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me." (John 6:44,45). Said Paul to the Romans, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." (Romans 1;16). Thus before one can be saved he must be taught the gospel, God's power to save.

THE GREAT COMMISSION AND PREACHING

The teaching program of the church of Christ is outlined by Jesus in the Great Commission as recorded by Matthew. "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." (Matt. 28:18-20). From this we learn that the disciples were to go:

1. Teach. But what were they to teach? The gospel. (See Mark 16:15, 16). But why were they to teach? (1) That those taught might believe. "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (Romans 10:17). (2) That those who be-

(see page 7)

THE QUERY DEPARTMENT

Leslie G. Thomas, Asheville, N. C.

Should we use the expression "join the church"?

Before attempting to answer a question like this, attention should be called to three terms, concerning which every Christian should have some information. The three terms are (1) scriptural; (2) unscriptural; and (3) anti-scriptural. Strictly speaking, that is scriptural which is written in the Scriptures; and by the same token, anything which is not written in the Scriptures is unscriptural. That is anti-scriptural which, not only is not written in the Scriptures, but is contrary to the Scriptures. An unscriptural statement may, or may not, be an anti-scriptural statement.

The expression "great commission," for example, is unscriptural, in the sense that it is not in the Scriptures; but that does not make the expression anti-scriptural. This should be enough to show us that not every expression which is not found in the Scriptures is contrary to the Scriptures. All such expressions should be judged in the light of the facts which surround them.

Words are the signs or expressions of ideas, and if an idea is found in the Bible then we are at liberty to use any word or combination of words which will accurately express that idea. The Bible nowhere says that the Ethiopian eunuch of Acts 8 was a Christian, but we know that the idea that he was is in the Bible; for he was an obedient follower of Christ. Therefore it is perfectly proper to use language which is not in the Bible to describe his relationship to Christ; but such language, while "unscriptural," in the sense that it is not in the Scriptures, is not anti-scriptural or

(see page 7)

A NIGHT TO CRY

Elbert Schory, Jr., Georgetown, S. C.

Bleakness hovered over old Jerusalem. Hypocritical judgment, founded on hostile testimony, was pronounced. The meek recipient stood serenely, beaten, scarred, and frained, at most, supportive. Empty tongues wagged, not likened to the rhythm of the pendulum, but kin to the swinging tail of an imbecilic dog.

A robust figure was rubbing his hands by a crackling flame. Warm on the outside, worried on the in. No, he was not a participant. He did not spit, slander, or slap the accused. He only cursed. After the rooster raised his voice, large drops of sweat appeared on the brow. Tension was building. Nerves were cracking. It seemed as if a bomb was resting on the retina of his stomach, the time-clock ticking away the seconds. His memory would not let him forget. Suddenly he pressed forward with violent haste and scurried from the outer court. A big man, but small enough to cry. Impatient, but humble. Sin won a great battle that night, but Penitence won the war. Judas hanged himself to forget it all. Peter cried and remembered. How many tears trickled down his cheeks, only Heaven has the count. Not many men who have sparred with life openly denied that carpenter from Nazareth. And yet with heads held high and hearts puffed up, they continually added to their worldly burdens the sins of minutia without a sign of remorse or evidence of repentance.

At the end of life's journey when the veil is lifted from the balances, Peter's sin will appear as a speck of sand, forgotten by God, overlooked by the angels. But rising to the left will be seen the mountains of grime, mountains that could not possibly go undetected by the Spiritual Eye. And underneath those mountains,

(see page 10)

Christian Worship (Cont'd)

lieve might turn away from their sins. "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:5). (3) That the penitent believer might be baptized in order to be saved. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." (Mark 16:16). Thus it is impossible to become a child of God without being taught. (See also Heb 8:6-13). The growth of the Lord's church is in direct proportion to the extent that its members go into the world preaching the unadulterated word of God.

2. Baptize the taught. But why should the taught (those who have accepted that which they have been taught be baptized? (1) It was a part of the message they believed. (Mark 16:16). (2) It was a condition on which their salvation was made to depend. (3) In carrying out the Great Commission, Peter said that it was for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38). (4) Saul, a penitent believer, was told that it would wash away his sins. (Acts 22:16). (5) Peter said that it saves--that is, it is the consummating act in God's scheme to remove man's alien sins. (I Peter 3:21). (6) It shows that the penitent believer is dying to sins, that he is being buried with Christ, and that he will arise to walk in a new life. (Romans 6:3,4). The numerical growth of the Lord's church is in direct proportion to the number of penitent believers who are baptized.

3. Teach the baptized. When one is baptized into Christ he begins the Christian life. By virtue of the new birth (John 3:5) he is a new man (Eph. 4:22-24), with a new relationship (Col. 1:13), beginning a new life (Rom. 6:4). He is a babe in Christ (I Peter 2:1, 2) that needs to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ (II Peter 3:18). He must be taught to "observe all things whatsoever Christ has commanded" (Matt. 28:19). As he learns he becomes less like man and more and more like God. "According to his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue; whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (II Peter 1:3,4). The spiritual growth of a baptized believer is in direct proportion to his response to observe all things that Christ has commanded of him.

Can we afford not to preach? The Bible teaches it, Jesus commanded it and the salvation of the world depends upon it. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15).

Query Department (Cont'd)

contrary to the Scriptures.

The expression "join the church" is not in the Bible (cf. Acts 9:26); but is the expression "anti-scriptural"? The Bible teaches that the Lord adds the saved to the church, but that is God's side of the question. Does he add people to the church without their doing anything about it? Almost no one would object to one's saying that "he became a member of the church;" but any informed person knows that that language is not in the New Testament. That simply expresses man's side of the transaction; and nothing more than that is meant when a person says that he joined the church. One of the meanings of the New Testament Greek word for "join" is, according to Arndt-Gingrich (Lexicon of the New Testament), to "become a follower or disciple of someone." (See also Thayer's Lexicon.) The expression just quoted is not found in the New Testament, but who is ready to say that the idea is not there?

People, of course, should be careful about using expressions which are likely to be misunderstood; but, on the other hand, people also need to be taught the truth regarding such expressions.

BOOK: CAROLINA PULPIT

This information is presented here to expedite the process of obtaining manuscripts for Carolina Pulpit. Very soon, we will contact those who have indicated a preference of subject in the general outline. When more than one manuscript is received on the same subject, the committee will endeavor to choose the best one. Please keep this information.

We will make use of it instead of enclosing it in our correspondence.

Below is a suggested outline of the proposed Carolina Pulpit as suggested by the Committee. The book is to have four sections: the Introduction, nine sermons on First Principles, nine sermons on Christian Living, and six sermons on General Themes. It should be remembered that the topics listed in the outline are not necessarily the exact wording of the ones to go into the book, but are guidelines of thought which the Committee believed would make good reading.

I. Introduction
   A. The preface (stating work of Committees, purpose of book, etc.)
   B. History of the Church in the Carolinas.

II. First Principles
   A. Background Lessons On God and His Law
      1. The Love of God for Man
      2. The Authority and Completeness of God's Word
      3. The Revelation of God's Will (the process, apostles, Holy Spirit, Etc.)
   B. How God and His Word Meets Man's Needs
      1. Man's Needs Considered (pardon, guidance, example, etc.)
      2. Christ the Answer to Man's Needs
      3. Man's Acceptance of God's Provisions
   C. God's Laws Contrasted With Error
      1. A View of the Divine Order
      2. Misconceptions Resulting in Departures
      3. The Restoration Principle

III. Christian Living
   A. Personal Development
      1. Christianity a Life of Progress Based on Biblical Enlightenment
      2. The Contribution of Congreational Life
      3. Private and Independent Means of Personal Development
   B. The Christian's Work
      1. Influence and Example Vital to Work
      2. The Work of Teaching and Conversion
      3. Works of Mercy
   C. Blessings and Rewards of the Christian
      1. Formula for True Happiness Found Only in Christ
      2. The Negative Approach: Formulas That Do Not Bring Happiness (worldliness, anxiety, sensuality, riches, selfishness, fame, intellectualism, false sense of values, etc.)
      3. Eternal Life

IV. General Themes

   A. The Home
   B. Church Leadership
   C. Christian Evidences
   D. Modern Threats
   E. Looking to the Future
   F. Christian Education

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Rules Agreed On By the Committee

1. The length of the sermons shall be from six to eight double-spaced typewritten pages (8-1/2 x 11 inches), using about one inch margin to the right and left.

2. The writers will please concentrate on writing much in little space, avoiding "wordiness."

3. All Scriptures used shall be written out in full, accompained by the exact references where they may be found.

4. All writers are urged to use correct sentence structure, correct spelling, and correct punctuation. If you are in doubt about some of these things, look them up. If you still need help, consult an English teacher or other qualified person.

5. The sermons shall be your own work. This is not to say that references to and quotations from others may not be used, but when they are, recognition must be given, either within the paragraph or in a footnote at the bottom of the same page on which the references appear.

6. Try to word the title appealingly.

7. The Committee felt that all the writers could do a better job if they were not so "bound" to outline form in their sermons. Hence, it was suggested that the topic sentence or the center topic be used rather than so many numerals, capital letters, etc., except in cases where such would be necessary for clarity.

8. As it would be a time-consuming task for the Committee to read all the sermons and judge their merits and demerits (publication-wise, that is), it will be greatly appreciated if you submit an outline with each sermon to guide us in your thinking.

9. The Committee reserves the right to reject your sermons if they do not measure up to publication standards. This does not mean that your sermons are no good! Writing is one art, while speaking is quite another, and the same set of rules will not work for both.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Howard Winters, Wilmington, N. C. "I have read, examined and proudly displayed the August issue of the Carolina Messenger of Truth.

"It is impressive in contents, beautiful in appearance and superior in make-up. Its most critical shortcomings have been corrected.

"It is my humble opinion that this issue can proudly take its place beside any of "our" most influential periodicals without appearing or being one iota behind or below.

"It is truly a great issue--a mile stone for the Messenger. Keep up the good work and God's blessings, as well as the blessings of the brotherhood, will be yours to enjoy.

"In closing let me say, I am rejoicing with you in the great progress made. This issue should silence all the Messenger's critics and put its enemies to shame."

PLEASE NOTIFY US

When you have a change of address, please notify us 30 days in advance giving both the old and new addresses.

Do You Have Bible Questions?

On page 6 you will find the first question in this series answered by Leslie G. Thomas of Asheville, N. C. For a number of years, he served as Query Editor for the Firm Foundation and thereby makes much experience available to this column.

Your questions may be sent directly to him or to Questions, P. O. Box 5423, Station B, Greenville, S. C. All questions should be signed, however, your name will be withheld from publication if requested.

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MEETING – Greenville, S. C., (Augusta Road), Sept. 30-Oct. 6; Frank Milton, preaching; 7:30 each evening.

Bolick News Editor (Cont'd)

We express our appreciation to Billy Davidson for his faithful and efficient work and we look forward to our association with Tom Bolick.

Please remember to send all S. C. News to Tom Bolick, 150 Lancaster Street, Chester, S. C. by the **20th** of each month.

A Night To Cry (Cont'd)

when the digging will commence, shoulders of men gradually will appear; yes those men of the world who through their three score and ten years held their heads aloft and swelled up their hearts. They forgot their little sins; Peter remembered his big one.

In the mind of God man's memory plays no role. It is God's remembrance of man's history on earth that determines his destiny for eternity. God does not forgive because man forgets, but He forgets when man repents and prays. Shed your tears on earth, for "too late t'will be for you to cry...."

GOSPEL ADVOCATE DEVOTED TO CAROLINAS

As was previously announced one of the issues of the Gospel Advocate will be devoted to the work in the Carolinas.

A recent letter from B. C. Goodpasture states, "We think it would be well for this issue to appear in one of the last two weeks of November.

"We shall be able to spare you four or five pages of the Advocate. It would be well to include pictures of some of the meeting houses, but we will expect the churches to pay for making the cuts."

We will want to make the very most of the space granted us. Any suggestions you might have would be greatly appreciated.

IMPROVING BIBLE STUDY

Madeline C. Brown
VALDESE, N. C.

Statistics have proved that most of the people who become Christians first attended Bible study. So I think it behooves us to pay particular attention to this phase of the worship.

Really, my heart is in teaching, and I am not happy unless I am busily engaged in it. If my health would allow it, I would teach classes in my home on week-ends and in the assembly on Sunday morning and Wednesday night. My greatest love is teaching the two's and three's and I think this is the most important class of all for this is where the very foundation is laid. This should not be a nursery and it need not be; these tots can learn reverence, songs, Bible verses, sharing, attentiveness and attitudes.

Perhaps the first and most important thing about improving the Bible school is regular attendance. The more often a child attends the class, the better he likes it because he knows his class-mates and teacher and they know him; regular attendance should become a good habit. Now, if this is true, then why do we not have 100% attendance at every session? With the very small child it is very definitely the fault of the parents. Parents, your children get food for the soul in the Bible class. Is spiritual food any less important than food for the body? How often do you as parents allow your child to go without food? His body must grow, but so must the mind. See that your child attends every time even if you must insist!

Irregular attendance of the older child is often a follow-up pattern of his younger childhood days. He thinks -- if it wasn't important then, why should it be now?

But I'll tell you this-parents who attend regularly bring their children, so this is the best and surest way to have 100% attendance---COME and BRING your children!

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

BILL SHELTON, N. C. News Editor
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NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

BILL SHELTON, Reporting: By the time you receive this copy of the Messenger, the eighth annual encampment of Carolina Bible Camp will be history. For those of us who worked with the young people during the two weeks of it's existence, it will be an experience that will be long remembered. Carolina Bible Camp serves a number of wonderful purposes. No one can deny the effect for good that it has on the campers, but in addition to this it provides a wonderful period of fellowship and relaxation for those who serve as teachers counselors, and staff personnel. Coming as it does in August, it usually culminates a summer that is filled with much activity, problems and tension. It seems that living in a wholesome, Christian environment, in which the nature of our problems is changed, is the prescription needed to carry us through the remaining part of the year.

A special note of thanks is due Bro. H. R. Butler who served so well in his new position as director of the camp. Bro. Butler is not new to Carolina Bible Camp having served faithfully in other capacities for a number of years, and we were not surprised that he served so well as the director. Harold and Mary Scott are also to be commended for their tireless efforts as head counselors, and Ray Fullerton and Joe Costilow for the best developed educational program that the camp has ever experienced. I am sure that the some 450 campers that profited from the devotion of these wonderful people and the other workers at camp, join with me in saying a very sincere "Thank You."

Since our last report from North Carolina, there has been a large exodus of preachers from this state and announced plans to move by others. Bro. Gordon Teffeteller moved from Durham to Florida in July. Gordon will be sorely missed by the preachers in the eastern part of the state as well as everyone who loved and respected him.

After 18 years of work in North Carolina, Bro. C. W. Bradley announces plans to move to Memphis, Tenn. the first of November. Bro. Bradley's contribution to Carolina Bible Camp and the work of the Lord in North Carolina makes his leaving create a vacuum that will be hard to fill. He has been counted on for advice and counsel by literally hundreds of young people and adult Christians as well as those of us who are relatively new to the preaching in this area. Bro. Bradley plans to take work with a congregation in Memphis while he continues his education at Harding College. He has stated that he plans to return to North Carolina upon completion of his present plans. We trust that God will guide him to do just that.

Bro. J. B. Whitaker will be leaving Rockingham, N. C. very soon to take the work in Mocksville, N. C. We are glad that J. B. has been able to relocate in the state and wish him well in his new work.

Bro. Charles Chandler has accepted work in Vermont and moved from Gastonia, N. C. since our last report. Conversation with Bro. B. R. Lewis, one of the elders at Gastonia informs us that the church at Gastonia has contracted a man to accept the work in that city.

Bro. Jesse Melton, preacher at Wilson, N. C., informs us that the new building at Wilson is being used for worship and is completed except for the pouring of sidewalks and some additional grading. A gospel meeting is planned for Sept. 29 through Oct. 6 with Bro. Jimmy Dorris of Nashville, Tenn. as speaker.

The following poem was sent to us by Sis. Madeline Brown who reports the news from Valdese, N. C. The poem was read at Carolina Bible Camp during its first week of operation and many requests were made for a copy. Perhaps it is a good way to close this report.

IF

You let a person make you mad,
Then he becomes your master---
He drives God's love away from you,
And sin takes over faster.

Your hate can grow in leaps and bounds,
Your heart is almost rancid---
Your soul becomes so sinful, too,
Much faster than you fancied.

So let no person make you mad,
Then you be your own-master---
Just keep God's love within your heart,
And love will grow much faster.

And you should pray for one you hate,
(His ways are what you hated)---
You did not really hate the man,
'Cause man's what God created.

Then you must pray in your behalf,
And ask to be forgiven---
The love of God will drive out hate,
So you can enter Heaven.

By- Madeline Callahan Brown
church of Christ
Valdese, N. C.

Inspired by H. R. Butler
of Charlotte, N. C.
at Carolina Bible Camp
on August 15, 1963.

ASHEVILLE, Vance Street

LESLIE G. THOMAS, Reporting: Fred A. Mosley, Nashville, Tenn., did the preaching in a meeting here at Vance St. during July. There were no additions. However, since then, during the last three weeks, two have been restored and five baptized. Our attendance and contributions have never been better. We are being put to the necessity of relocating our building, but we feel that will also benefit the church.

PANTEGO, Pike Road

JESSE CONDRA, Reporting: We have just concluded a nine day meeting with two services each day at 2:30 P.M. and 8:00 P.M. Bro. Virgil Hale of Whiteville, N. C. did the preaching in an excellent and effective way.

Each lesson delivered in this series seemed to be the need of the hour, and was well received by all who have a sincere love for truth. Bro. Hale is a very capable, sincere, honest proclaimer of the pure gospel of Christ.

During the meeting two were baptized into Christ. The church edified and we feel sure other fruit will follow.

Just prior to the meeting, two precious souls were restored to the straight and narrow way.

ABERDEEN

E. C. LOCKERMAN, Reporting: The Riverside church of Christ, Columbia, Tennessee brought a most wonderful gospel meeting July 21-28, to the Aberdeen area. We are humbly grateful and rejoice over this, one of the greatest blessings that has come our way. Bro. Charles Tidwell did a magnificent work preaching the Word and Bro. William Tankersley did a beautiful work leading the singing. Sister Tankersley, Bro. and Sis. R. C. May, Bro. Carl May, Bro. and Sis. George Taylor also came from Columbia. All these good Christians worked hard and long. Brothers and Sisters from Rockingham and Fayetteville came and helped the Tennessee group and our small group with house to house work. The attendance was spendid with a high of 101--all records were broken though we set no goal. We had Brothers and Sisters to come n support of this meeting from Albermarle, Ashboro, Charlotte, Clemmons, Fayetteville (Bonnie Doone and Cape Fear) Lexington, Raleigh, Rockingham, Troy and Winston-Salem. There may be others that we did not realize. We had a number of visitors from the community at each service except when their own was held. This meeting was also wonderful in that some who came had never heard the Truth preached, they listened and were interested. We truly had a glorious Spiritual feast.

ROCKINGHAM

O. A. RICHARDSON, Reporting: The church in Rockingham was saddened with the announcement from Bro. J. B. Whitaker that he plans to leave Rockingham in a short time, or as soon as he can be replaced. An interested preacher may contact the church at P. O. Box 27, Rockingham, N. C.

Bro. Whitaker has helped the church here to have a very substancial growth. During his stay here the average attendance has almost doubled. The average contribution has a little more than doubled. A new church building has been erected. A new 3 bedroom preacher's home has been purchased and many other evidences of growth are obvious.

We have just concluded our vacation bible school. Our average attendance was a little under last year but it was a success. Bro. Howard Winters from Wilmington was with us in the bible school and spoke to the church each evening and on Sunday. Bro. Whitaker directed song services for the meeting.

CHARLOTTE, Westside

THAMER C. GALLOWAY, Reporting: Our Vacation Bible School, which was conducted from July 22 to July 26, surpassed all expectations. The average daily attendance was 200. The highest for a single day was on Thursday, July 25 with 242. This was our first VBS and all are delighted with the results. There was much cooperation among the members here and from those of surrounding congregations. Graduation night exercises has an attendance of around 200, many of those attending being non-members.

FAYETTEVILLE, Cape Fear

B. G. LANGSTON, Reporting: Bro. Paul Vining was with us in a series of gospel meetings under a tent July 14 - 24. We broke all previous attendance records during the meeting. We reached a new high of 131 for Sunday morning worship. The average attendance per service during the meeting was 98, an increase of 28 per service over last year. There were non-members at every service. Some of them heard their first gospel sermon.

The Sunday before the meeting began a middle aged couple attended our services both morning and evening. They appeared to be interested in the church and pleased with what they found. During the meeting we held a series of cottage meetings with them. The last day of the meeting we were able to baptize them. They had been members of the Church of God and were more recently Mormons. They realized these groups did not have scriptural authority, but didn't know where to look for the true church. These people have lived in Fayetteville all their lives. They have children and other relatives who live here so we feel that these conversions may open doors to teaching opportunities.

If our attorney doesn't discover something else amiss, we now have a clear deed to our property with full permission to build a church building. We expect to have the bond program completely set up within the next few days.

VALDESE

MADELINE C. BROWN, Reporting: Three meetings have just been completed, conducted by our preacher, Bill G. Smith --two in Texas and one in Taylorsville, N.

C. All three meetings were well received and much interest shown.

In the absence of our regular minister, the preaching was very ably conducted by two of our brethren, M. E. Burns, and Dan Kimbell. We are indeed blessed to have such talented and dedicated men in the church at Valdese to carry on the work of the Lord when the preacher is away.

Two students and one counselor attended the first week of Bible Camp this year, while one counselor and six students attended the camp the second week.

In June of this year, Bro. S. H. (Grandpa) Burns passed away. He was the oldest member of the church in Valdese, 86 years old. This is the first death of a member of the church since the work started in Valdese.

The newest addition here is a son born July 31 to the family of Joe E. Brown, which family worships with the church in Valdese. They reside in Morganton, and have one other small son and one small daughter.

We the church of the Lord in Valdese continue to carry on His work in this area and we ask the prayers of the brotherhood that the borders of His Kingdom may be broadened in this mission field.

MOCKSVILLE, Jericho

ORVILLE L. MIDYETT, Reporting: On June 9 one of the greatest meetings in recent history of the Jericho Church of Christ was concluded. On this date one of the largest gatherings of recent times came to the building for the morning service--170. A total of 1,407 gathered to hear the gospel sermons during the meeting with an average of 141 for each service. Visitors from other congregations and visitors from the community were present for every evening service, and--our crowning joy--eight precious souls were added to the Lord's body in baptism. It was a good meeting, surely, from visible results standpoint. Also, I don't believe we could have had better preaching than that brought by Bro. L. Roger Powell of Waynesboro, Virginia. He, being a native of the community, knew of the conditions and needs and brought lessons that were inspiring, challenging, scriptural and spoken in love. We are grateful to him and to all other preachers dedicated as he.

Add to the eight that were baptized during the meeting five that were baptized in May and we have a total of thirteen baptisms in the last two months. We are much encouraged in this and are brought to new zeal when we realize our responsibility to these new members of the Lord's Body.

Besides the above mentioned good news we are also encouraged in the rising contribution. We have had record contributions of $191.52 and $213.92 this month. We are investigating many works that we might wisely use the Lord's money.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

ROCK HILL

H. GRADY SLATTON, Reporting: Two series of meetings and regularly concerted efforts have resulted in several responses this year. Attendance and contribution have held up well. A vacation Bible school averaged 45 daily but emphasis was placed on quality rather than large attendance. The interest was excellent.

Bro. Wm. V. Pierce is leaving us on Sept. 2, and his successor has not as yet been selected.

FLORENCE

H. P. DODD, Reporting: Since I have been in Florence, it has been my privilege to read the Carolina Messenger of Truth, and I enjoy it very much. The Church here has a club of six I believe. I especially enjoyed the last issue on the "POTENTIALS OF THE CHURCH". I think the church has come to realize more its potential strength, and is endeavoring to make greater use of it. Where I have been in North Alabama, and Middle Tenn.

great is the evidence that such strength is being utilized. Better church buildings, greater educational facilities, greater co-operative spirit, greater efforts being put forth in mission work. I suppose the greater stride is being made in mission work since the church was established in this country. I think our schools and colleges have given much impetus to such work. I believe we will see more such work done in the future.

The work here in Florence has a great future. I find here a humble, energetic group, willing to go forward. There are at present forty-eight members of the congregation. The attendance at every service has been most encouraging. One has been baptized since I came here. The contribution has been good and has increased in the past three months. Bro. Duke Gregory, of Lexington, Ala. was here in a good meeting in June.

I think we are rather fortunate to be able to announce that the "BIG TENT" will be in Florence, Sept. 15th through Sept. 29, just a little more than a month away. I would like to get this announcement in Carolina Messenger of Truth, August issue. We have had the news only a short time, in fact just the past week. The information I have, is that the churches in the Tri City area of north Alabama are getting a movement on foot to use the Big Tent in mission fields more than has been done in the past. Since many congregations, that I am aquainted with, are nearing the end of building indebtedness they plan to continue with a more widespread work of evangelism. This idea certainly should be encouraged, and I feel that it will, knowing the spirit of the elders, preachers, and members of the church.

Services for the meeting will be at 8:00 P.M. each evening.

UNION

MILTON S. PARKER, Reporting: Since our last report, two have been baptized, 20 have confessed sins, three have placed membership. Interest, contribution and attendance at all services are at an all time high. At our Vacation Bible School 208 were enrolled, with an average attendance of 165. This broke all previous records.

Plans are under way for a much extended program of work for next year (1964). Among other things these plans include the beginning of a new congregation in Clinton, South Carolina, with the elders here overseeing this new work. A more complete report on the plans for this new congregation will be made in the near future. We ask an interest in your prayers, that we may continue to make progress in keeping with God's will.

The elders have asked me to remain here another year.

GAFFNEY

MARVIN F. BRYANT, Reporting: The Gaffney church had a meeting with Bro. Rex A. Turner, President of Alabama Christian College as preacher. After the meeting we baptized J. W. D. Bolin, age 73, who is a retired Methodist minister.

We are presently studying with a number of people and we have high hopes of many being honest souls and obeying the truth revealed.

We solicit the prayers of the brotherhood and we wish to cooperate in every helpful way in promoting the cause of Christ here and throughout the world.

GREENVILLE, Northeast

Burl Curtis, Reporting. A new record was set in our Vacation Bible School at Northeast this month. Seventy-five were present at the closing session.

Our meeting will be November 8-15 with Bill G. Smith of Valdese, N. C. doing the preaching. It will begin on Friday and close on Friday.

We are very happy to announce that Gill and Ginny Gregory and family are now back at Northeast. Gill's work brought him back here from Columbia, S. C. This family is very active in the work of the church and will be a great asset to us.

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SEP 19 1963

The New 1963

Carolina Church Directory

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- Names, addresses and telephone numbers of Carolina Preachers.
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- Time and stations of gospel telecasts and broadcasts.
- Lists of counties without Churches of Christ along with population figures.

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Carolina MESSENGER of TRUTH

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Carolina Christian Publications, Inc.

"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

EDITORIAL: ENTHUSIASM

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C.

Active interest is certainly a part of our way of life but too many times we are not actively interested in the most important things. We get excited over the ball game but not over the game of life, excited over a political election but not over spiritual election; over an entertainer's schedule, but not the church's; over winning a race but not over winning souls. In order to be pleasing to God, Christians must be more "actively interested" in doing God's will than their own.

Although some have "zeal without knowledge", many others have knowledge without zeal. The Jews were condemned for having zeal without knowledge. Paul wrote, "For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have NOT submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God" (Romans 10:2, 3. Are we any better than they if we have knowledge without enthusiasm?

Let us hear the Lord! "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy MIGHT; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest" (Eccl. 9:10). "And whatsoever ye do, do it HEARTILY, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Col. 3:23). "Not slothful in business; FERVENT in spirit; serving the Lord" (Romans 12:11). We are not left in doubt. The redeemed ones are to be ZEALOUS of good works. "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, ZEALOUS of good works" (Titus 2:14). Do you as a Christian do what you do for the Lord HEARTILY, FERVENTLY and with ZEAL and MIGHT? Nothing less will please him.

Sometimes this describes a congregation. There is no fervor in the study of the Bible and the preaching. The leaders do not plan with zeal. Nothing that is done by the congregation is done heartily and with might. A member might ask, "Why should I get excited? What is planned to get excited about?" Another might well say, "I used to have enthusiasm but I have had cold water thrown on me so often that I have joined the rest of them". Too many times, everything seems to be so very comfortable in a congregation. The members do not have to work HEARTILY to meet the attendance goals (if there are any). They do not have to work mightily to meet the budget for it is so low that they really are encouraged to be coveteous. There is no fervor in the sermons and consequently no enthusiasm to clean up their lives and to win souls.

What can we learn and what can we do? From the Corinthian church, we can learn that SIN will destroy our zeal. Their division, carnality, fornication and going to law with their brother had to be repented of before they could recapture their zeal. In II Corinthians 7:8-11, Paul declares, "Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance ... what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves...what fear.. ..yea, what ZEAL..." By the proper ap-

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BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny C. Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.

The Queens church of Christ, Flushing, N. Y., in co-operation with sister congregations, is engaged in a program of evangelism to reach some 70 to 100 million visitors who will attend the World's Fair between April 22-October 18, 1964 and April 21 October 17, 1965. Eleven avenues of teaching will be used to present the plea for New Testament Christianity to fair visitors. $100,000 has already been committed to this work with a total of $400,000 being the immediate goal.

The first Pan-American Lectureship will be held in Guatemala City, November 4-9, 1963. Keynote speakers will be Reuel Lemmons and George Gurganus.

Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas has scheduled its 40th. Annual Bible Lectureship for November 25-28, 1963. Special theme: "Christ--The Way".

The Annual Fall Lectureship of Columbia Christian College, Portland, Oregon was held October 2-4, 1963 with Carl Mitchell, a former missionary to Italy, as the featured speaker. Special theme: "Missions Worldwide".

Olan L. Hicks, a professor of Bible at Freed-Hardeman College, Henderson, Tennessee and founder and first editor of the Christian Chronicle, died of leukemia September 8.

Warren E. Starnes, who ministered to Texas churches of Christ for 60 years, departed this life August 20 in Waco, Texas. Cleon Lyles of Little Rock, Arkansas delivered the funeral sermon.

An attendance of over 1,000 was expected for the Open House and Rally Day at Shults-Lewis Children's Home, Valparaiso, Indiana on September 21. Featured speakers for the occasion were Otis Gatewood, President of Michigan Christian College, Rochester, Michigan, and Earl West, well known minister and author of The Search for the Ancient Order.

The J. C. Shewmakers, who have labored for the Lord 24 years in Africa, have recently concluded a trip to the States, their second since beginning work in Africa years ago. They have traveled in some 18 states in the interest of the African missionary efforts.

The September 17 issue of the Firm Foundation listed 19 countries and major geographical areas in Europe, 26 in Asia, 41 in Africa, 7 in South America, 6 in Central America, 5 in North America and 8 in the South Pacific which do not have known churches of Christ.

Rhinard Troup, his wife, Betty, and their infant son embarked September 20 for Southern Rhodesia, Africa to begin a 4 to 5 year labor at Nhowe Mission. They are supported by the College church in Abilene, Texas.

The Harold Derr family is replacing the Jerry Reynolds family in Ghana, West Africa in that mission field.

Harry Fox, Jr., long time missionary to Japan, a former President of Ibaraki Christian College and presently the minister of the Woodland Hill, California church has been invited to preach in a special series of lectures and meetings in Japan in 1964.

Mrs. Becky Tilotta left Houston, Texas

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Christian Worship: The Lord's Supper

Howard Winters, Wilmington, N. C.

The Lord's Supper is a memorial. It reminds the faithful child of God again and again of the facts that Jesus died, was buried and rose again on the third day, that he ascended back to His Father in heaven and that he will come again on clouds of glory. Thus as long as the Lord's Supper is properly observed, the name of Christ can never be forgotten from the earth. Empires arise and fall, nations come and go, customs change, man advances in wisdom and in knowledge but here is a simple memorial that changes not, and yet it keeps the name of Christ alive, real and a vigorous force in the lives of His people. It is no wonder that Jesus said, "This do in remembrance of me" (I Cor. 11:24).

Many wonderful things could be said about this grand subject, but space limits us to a few Scriptural observations. Hence we call to your attention the facts that:

1. It was instituted by Jesus. Paul said, "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me" (I Cor. 11:23-25). Thus the Lord's Supper is not a commandment of men--man did not give it nor can man take it away.

2. It was observed by the early disciples. "And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayer" (Acts 2:42). The early Christians were faithful to observe all that Jesus had commanded them. He commanded them to take the Supper in His memory.

3. It was observed on the first day of the week. "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow, and continued his speech until midnight" (Acts 20:7). Those who do not observe the Lord's Supper on the first day of each week have no affinity with Christ and the early church.

4. It is the communion of the body and the blood of Jesus. "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ" (I Cor. 10:16)? We must intimately associate ourselves, in this Supper, with the body and blood of Jesus--that is, we associate ourselves with benefits derived therefrom.

5. It is the table of the Lord. "Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils" (I Cor. 10:21). The Lord and His people meet at a common (communion) table--the Lord is present (representatively and in spirit) and so are His people.

6. It is done in remembrance of the Lord. "This do in remembrance of me" (I Cor. 11:24). One who remembers the Lord, and the cause of His death on the cross, cannot soon forget that he has been purged from his old sins. See in this connection II Peter 1:5-11.

7. It is to show forth the Lord's death. "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come" (I Cor. 11:26). The Lord's Supper is a powerful proclamation, each time it is taken, of the death, burial,

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Introduction To The Bible No. 3, The Bible Unity

Ray Moses, Greenville, S. C.

The Bible has been called "a divine library" because it is made up of sixty-six different books. The Old Testament contains thirty-nine books. A little memory trick to help one to remember this number is to take the number of letters in the word "Old" which is three and place after it the figure that shows the number of letters in "Testament" which is nine, thus getting the number 39. The number of books in the New Testament may be found in a somewhat similar way, but this time we multiply three times nine to get 27.

But the Bible is usually bound as a single volume and there are excellent reasons for thinking of it as one book. The Bible is given a measure of unity by the fact that it has one central theme--the redemption of man, and one central character--Jesus, the Redeemer.

A very short look at the books of history and the biographical sections of the Old Testament will show that the dark clouds of sin hung heavy over the nation much of the time, and most of the lives that are portrayed showed need for a Redeemer. The "Lamentations" of Jeremiah were justified. And if God's chosen people were in such spiritual need, what must have been the need of the Gentile world!

Many ceremonies prescribed in the Old Testament represent something about the coming Christ. The sacrifice of a "lamb without blemish" made more meaningful to his hearers the words of John the Baptist, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29.

Scattered through much of the Old Testament are more than seventy direct prophecies of Christ, which like links in a golden chain bind the Old Testament to the New. Here are a few examples:--

In Genesis 3:15 it is prophesied that Mother Eve will bruise Satan's head. A part of the fulfilment is given in Galatians 4:4, 5.

A star to appear--Numbers 24:17; fulfilled Matthew 2:2.

Christ's birthplace to be Bethlehem--Micah 5:2; fulfilled Matthew 2:1.

The Redeemer to come to Zion--Isaiah 59:20 links up with Romans 11:26.

Gentiles to seek him, Isaiah 65:1; fulfilled in Mark 7:26.

A Prophet--Deuteronomy 18:15 and 18; fulfilled in John 6:14.

A Priest--Psalms 110:4; fulfilled Heb. 9:11.

A King--Psalms 110:1,2 and Daniel 7:13, 14; fulfilled I Corinthians 15:25.

The crucifixion--Psalms 22:16; fulfilled Matthew 27:35 and in the other Gospels.

The ascension--Psalms 68:18; fulfilled Mark 16:19.

Of course the four gospels are accounts of the life, work, teachings, death and resurrection of the Christ.

The Acts of the Apostles is an account of how Apostles and other Christian workers made converts to Christ's teachings and organized churches.

The epistles are letters to Christians, telling them what they should believe, explaining problems and encouraging them to walk worthily after their Master.

The Revelation looks away into the future when the Redeemed will be at home in triumph with their Redeemer--beyond the reach of pain or sin.

Now the sixty-six books of the Bible were written by more than 40 different men, scattered through around one thousand five hundred years of time and in a num-

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Improving Bible Study

Madeline C. Brown

Madeline C. Brown, Valdese, N. C.

One very good way to improve the Bible study classes is for the teacher to be really interested in her class members. I mean really interested to the point of learning all about the children she teaches --even their home life to a certain extent.

Every qualified teacher prepares the lesson, attends every service of the church, meets the children with a smile and uses the proper attitude and suitable attire.

Especially in the pre-school class, the teacher makes preparations to present the lesson. This teacher fashions hand-work to bring the Bible lesson to the understanding level of the children; she makes attendance charts in keeping with the lessons, the seasons, or the individual needs of her class; she makes "take home" objects so the child can carry the meaning of the Bible lesson home with him and hopes that the parents will take note of this and discuss it with the child so as to further instill in his mind the lesson of the day.

So again, parents, it is up to you to see that your children attend regularly. Can't you imagine how the teacher feels after all this preparation if she comes into a half-empty classroom? This disappointment knows no bounds! But the teachers must keep on working! We do.

Teachers can do much with this group of children by praising the ones who come regularly so they know we appreciate them, and by visiting the ones who are absent, so we may encourage them to come next time! What good will it do to prepare a lesson for eight children and only four are present? Only half of the class potential benefit from it. Teachers should (and we could) visit the home of each child who is absent on Sunday (making this visit as early in the week as possible) and let the parents know you missed the child. So, I say, TEACHERS, VISIT CHILDREN IN THEIR HOMES!

LORD'S SUPPER (cont'd)

resurrection, ascension and the second coming of Christ.

8. It is to be taken in a worthy manner. "Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily; shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord" (I Cor. 11:27). The word "unworthily" is an adverb, and simply means that the Supper is to be taken in a worthy manner.

9. It is to be taken after self examination. "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup" (I Cor. 11:28). In communion with Christ, we look not at others but at ourself.

10. It is a discerning of the Lord's body. "For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body" (I Cor. 11:29). Thus we must discern, in communion with Christ, the purpose of Christ's death, the purpose of the Supper, the purpose of our partaking thereof and the purpose of our hope.

Thus the Lord's Supper is a simple memorial which was instituted by Jesus Christ himself and is perpetuated by those who faithfully follow Him. In the face of this fact, a faithful Christian cannot and will not miss the Lord's Supper when the Lord's people meet on the Lord's day to remember and proclaim the Lord's death, burial, resurrection, ascension and second coming.

Why Moses Struck The Rock

C. E. Mannon, Greenville, N. C.

In a recent cottage meeting, a general survey of Old Testament history was given with particular reference to Israel's journey from Egypt to Canaan. In this review, I spoke of God's commanding Moses to speak unto the rock that it bring forth water for the congregation and their beasts to drink. (Numbers 20:7-12) Then hastening to add that, instead of acting as commanded, Moses struck the rock, taking the honor unto himself (Aaron included) for providing the water. As a consequence, I emphasized God's decree that Moses would not be allowed to enter the promised land to which he led his people. When considering questions relating to our study, one man asked, "Tell me, why did Moses hit that rock?" My reply was to the effect of complimenting the querist for a good question and added that Moses' action is typical of man's failure to be content in doing just what God says to do, simply because he says to do it. But I came home and read the text again. As never before, I was impressed with the words of Numbers 20:12 as the answer to our question: "Because you believed me not, to sanctify (set apart, hallow) me in the eyes of the children of Israel." Today, this which was written "aforetime" provides a vivid object lesson on why people do what God has not commanded. It is simply because of unbelief begotten by a carnal desire for self exaltation that will not allow God to be set apart and glorified through his will for man. Oh yes, God had previously commanded Moses to smite the rock for water (Exodus 17:6) and had not said on the occasion before us, "Thou shalt not strike the rock," but the fact that God had specified what was to be done in this matter excluded the doing of anything else. To go beyond what was commanded involved attitudes and consequences as detrimental as those attending a failure to do what was commanded. In our time, God speaks by his Son whose word is the New Testament. (Hebrews 1:1; 9:15-17) Specific commands are given to be obeyed in becoming a Christian and enjoying salvation from sin and membership in the Lord's church. Unto righteousness in Christ, one is to believe confidently; unto life one is to repent sincerely, and into Christ this one is to be immersed for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:36-38) Membership in the Lord's church automatically attends obedience from the heart to Christ's gospel of our salvation. (Acts 2:47; Colossians 1:13-14) Worship offered among Christians, giving glory unto God in the Church, (Ephesians 3:21) involves the command to sing and to pray. (Ephesians 5:19; 6:18) We are to commune and to give, (I Corinthians 11:24-25; 16:2) and seek those things above (Colossians 3), even as the first Christians have left us an example. (Acts 2:42) Faithful continuance in doing well God's will (turning aside neither to the left nor the right, coming neither short of nor going beyond) gives assurance of victory, yea, this is the victory that overcomes the world. (I John 5:4) It is enough to take God at his word, believe what he has said, obey his commands, and to trust in his promises, for it does make a difference!

CLOTHES LEFT AT CAMP

Harold Scott
P. O. Box 1484
Statesville, N. C.

To the boys and girls who went to Carolina Bible Camp:

All the clothes that were left at camp are in Statesville, N. C. These clothes will be kept for two months and then given away. If you left any clothes at Carolina Bible Camp, please let me know at once. Also, please send sufficient postage to have them returned to you. Thank you.

Make Your Plans

First Annual Meeting Caroli

DATE AND PLACE

The First Annual Meeting of the Carolina Christian Publications, Inc., publishers of the Carolina Messenger of Truth, will be held on Friday, November 22, the week before the Thanksgiving Holidays, at the Barclay Cafeteria in the Amity Gardens Shopping Center, 3892 East Independence Boulevard, Charlotte, North Carolina. This location is in the vicinity of the Coliseum.

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At 2 p.m. the Board of Directors will meet with the members of the Advisory Board for purposes of business. In this session, among other things, a projected plan for the future development of the work of the Corporation will be presented. Suggestions will be solicited from the Advisors, each one of which will be carefully taken into consideration by the Directors.

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WHO MAY ATTEND?

Everybody! We ask all congregations to announce this meeting several times in their bulletin, from the pulpit and to place an announcement of it on their bulletin boards. All the members of the Advisory Board, their wives, the Directors and their wives are expected and all the other Christians in the Carolinas are cordially invited and urged to attend. While the afternoon meeting is underway the ladies would enjoy shopping. Why not make a full day of it?

w To Attend The

Christian Publications, Inc.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

Only transportation and the cost of your meal. The meal, banquet arrangements have been made, will cost less than $2.00 per person.

HOW MANY ARE COMING?

That's what we need to know so that adequate preparations can be made. It would be a definite help to us in making the arrangements to have you clip the coupon below, fill in the names and addresses of the people from your community who are planning to attend and mail it to: Carolina Christian Publications, Inc., P. O. Box 26314, Derita Branch, Charlotte, N. C. 28213. Please do this as soon as possible. If you find at the last minute that you can attend and have not sent in your reservation, come right on anyway. However, if possible, send us your name and address, if you believe you can attend, for this would be a help in making arrangements.

The persons named below plan to attend the First Annual Meeting of the Carolina Christian Publications, Inc., in Charlotte on November 22.

Names	Address

UNITY OF BIBLE (cont'd)

ber of different countries. Parts of it were written in Arabia, parts in Palestine, in a number of Greek cities and on the lonely Isle of Patmos. What are the chances that by accident men so scattered in time and space would write parts that would fit together into a well unified book?

Let us take an illustration from modern industry. Some complex machine--an automobile for example--may have its parts built in a dozen different cities and when they are properly assembled the owner has a well-unified, smoothly working machine. You say, "Yes, but somebody had to have a blue-print for all the parts and he must let each manufacturer know just what he was to build and exactly how he was to build it." Very true!

Likewise for the parts of the Bible to fit together in such a wonderful way, there had to be a Great Mind back of its messages. The most reasonable explanation of the unity of the Bible is the one given in the Bible itself. "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." II Peter 1:21.

BROTHERHOOD NEWS (cont'd)

August 24 for a 18 month trip around the world for the purpose of helping to train women to become better Bible class teachers. Her longest single stay will be 6 months in Korea. This work is being financed by the Freeport, Texas church.

The Pittsburg, California church is seeking the services of a gospel preacher in a position to work among the 55 million souls of East Pakistan. There is no minister of the church of Christ in that area now.

James S. Woodroff has announced plans to enter the New Zealand Mission work in 1965, supported by the Sixth and Izard church of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Bill Patterson and Holbert Rideout are presently conducting 18 one night Teacher Training Programs in various western states including Texas, Kansas, New Mexico and Oklahoma and ending on the West coast.

ENTHUSIASM (cont'd)

plication of the power of the gospel, this church so grew in ZEAL that they "provoked very many" (II Cor. 9:2). ZEAL begets zeal. Excitement is contagious. One great service the Messenger can render is to make known the ENTHUSIASM of a congregation to provoke others.

Now is the time to get excited about the most important things. Let every Christian act be performed HEARTILY and MIGHTILY. Start today by obeying the words of Jesus to the church at Laodicea, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be ZEALOUS therefore, and repent" (Rev. 3:19).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

When you move, please notify us two months in advance giving both old and new addresses. This will save us money and time and will assure your not missing a copy of the Messenger.

BIBLE QUESTIONS

If you have Bible questions that you would like for brother Leslie Thomas to answer, please send them to him or to Questions, P. O. Box 5423, Sta. B, Greenville, S. C. All questions should be signed; however, your name will be withheld from publication if requested.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

BILL SHELTON, N. C. News Editor
P. O. Box 5424, Raleigh, N. C.

TOM BOLICK, S. C. News Editor
50 Lancaster Street, Chester, S. C.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

RALEIGH, N. C.

BILL SHELTON, Reporting: The church in Raleigh has experienced considerable growth and renewed enthusiasm since our last report. On September 15 nine members were added to the membership of this congregation. These additions consisted of three baptisms, two restorations, and four Christians who identified themselves with us.

The contract has been made with Ward Building Co. of Raleigh for the construction of a building for the Bloodsworth St. church of Christ. The brick veneer building will contain a 150 seat auditorium, 4 classrooms, nursery, baptistry and preacher's study. It will cost approximately twenty-two thousand dollars. The lot has already been purchased at a cost of four thousand five hundred dollars. The building fund for the colored brethren already contains $2,500 and $2,500 is to be raised by the white brethren here. Additional funds will be raised from interested congregations and a loan by the Raleigh church.

If you would like to have a part in this mission effort, please mail a contribution to Elders, Church of Christ, Box 5424, Raleigh, N.C. With God's help and the assistance of interested brethren, the Bloodsworth St. church of Christ should be occupying their new building by Jan. 1.

KINSTON

NOYLES E. SEWELL, Reporting: Although our average attendance during the summer has been much below the record of 114 established in the spring, our contributions have not greatly suffered and we are meeting our present budget of $150. We still receive outside support of $400 monthly from West End in Nashville. As a result of a recent training program we now have four brethren active in cottage meeting work. We have a goal of 20 baptisms for the year, which leaves us 8 more to go. C. W. Bradley will be with us for one week in October. We have a double-sized booth in the Lenoir County Fair. I am now on the radio five nights per week, thirty minutes at 6 p.m., serving as moderator of a discussion panel. This program is made possible as a public service by the station. We congratulate Whiteville, N. C. on a recent attendance record of 108. We also rejoice that Christians are now meeting in Elizabeth City, N. C. in the far Northeast corner. Eighteen brethren form the nucleus of this work and preaching is supplied by churches in the Norfolk area. A fully supported preacher to work in Elizabeth City is now a real need. For further information we refer those interested to George A. McWhorter (minister), 3121 Hornsea Rd., Chesapeake, Va., or Horace F. Stephens, Route 4, Bayside, Elizabeth City, N. C.

SHELBY

BOB HERNDON, Reporting: We have recently purchased a mimeograph machine to use in our teaching program and also to print a weekly bulletin. Anyone wishing to receive our bulletins, or any congregation wishing to exchange bulletins, is asked to write to us at Box 414, Shelby, N. C.

We set a new record this month with 47 present at 11 o'clock service. Our contribution is averaging over $100 weekly.

Our meeting with Sewell Hall was well

attended; the presence of members from neighboring congregations encouraged us.

Seldom is a church blessed with a higher ratio of capable men than is the one at Shelby. We realize that because of this we will have the "greater condemnation" if we fail to assume our responsibilities.

WOODLEAF

J. N. ROBERTS, Reporting: It has been some time since we sent in a report. Our meeting with J. B. Whitaker went over well with good attendance at each service. Our Vacation Bible School was well attended and several children attended who were not members of the Church.

Brother Qualls resigned the work with the church here the first of July. Brother Ronnie Ulrey began work with the church here the first Sunday in September. We welcome him from Roanoke, Va.

The Rock Hill colored congregation is building a new worship building in this community. They expect to occupy it by Fall. There is not much to report on our new building. We hope to get in it by late this Fall.

"Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any praise, think on these things" (Phil. 4:8).

VALDESE

MADELINE C. BROWN, Reporting: Our preacher, Bill G. Smith, has announced to the church here that he has accepted work with the church in Rockingham, N. C. and that he and his family will be moving before the first of the year.

No bulletin was published here from June 23 to Sept. 1 due to the preacher being away in meetings, so we have compiled the averages altogether for June, July and August. They are as follows:

Daily Bible Readers	22.77
Bible Classes	35.85
Worship	39.70
Night Worship	29.15
Wed. Bible Classes	23.31
Contribution	$169.65
Over budget during summer months	$255.48
Over budget for the year ($150.00 per week)	$437.83

Brother Smith conducted a meeting in Detroit, Mich. the week of Sept. 15th. The brethren M. E. Burns and Dan Kimbell preached in the regular minister's absence. The brethren Jerry Liddick and Joe Brown taught brother Smith's regular Bible classes during his absence.

The regular Fall meeting will be conducted this year on Oct. 9-16 here in Valdese. Brother Goebel Music of Little Rock, Arkansas will be the visiting speaker.

The congregation at Valdese, N. C. is interested in locating a full time preacher. Please contact Box 72, Valdese, N. C., giving necessary information in first letter.

BOONE, N. C.

ORLAN SAWEY, Reporting: It would be pleasant to report that the work in Boone is progressing rapidly, but such is not the case. I suspect, however, that we sometimes get too impatient with the Lord, who gives the increase after we have planted and watered. Preaching the gospel is not a matter of statistics.

During the summer, preaching was done in two meetings. One by L. J. Nicklas of Lakemore, Ohio, and the other by Dennis L. Moss of Portland, Oregon. One man was restored during the second meeting, and his wife was baptized the following Sunday. This adds one large family to our members.

If a member of your family (or congregation) is attending Appalachian State Teachers College this fall, please (1) send me his name and college address (my address is Route 3, Boone); (2) exhort him to attend all the services (we need faithful workers and cannot know whether a student is on the campus or at home);(3) have him call me, telephone number 264-8074, for transportation to the building or check with me at Room 14-1/2 of the college Administration Building.

TRYON

KENNETH WILLIS, Reporting: In our VBS of August 5-9 thirty-five children were enrolled. Approximately two-thirds of this number were from the homes of non-members. Although attendance was low, interest was high throughout the week; and our trust is that the Bible lessons and impressions for good may be lasting in their effect. Shortly after the VBS, we were made to rejoice when one of the young girls attending the series desired to put on Christ in baptism. We are happy that another one has been added to His Kingdom.

This congregation lost six of its members the last of August when one family moved to Asheville. Present plans of the church call for a ten night singing school in October.

WINSTON-SALEM

CAROLYNE S. ELDRIDGE, Reporting The church here was greatly saddened to learn that C. W. Bradley is to leave us soon. He is known and loved here and throughout the Carolinas as a tireless worker for the Lord. He and his wife, Roberta, will always be remembered warmly by all for the good they have accomplished while here. His plans are to begin work with the White Haven church of Christ in Memphis, Tennessee, and also work toward an advanced degree at Harding Graduate School there. Our blessings go with him in this endeavor. It is our prayer that providence will return him to the Carolinas in the future to continue his good work here.

We have just completed a very good meeting, held Sept. 1-6. Bro. Paul Southern of Abilene, Texas delivered a most inspiring message each evening.

WILMINGTON

HOWARD WINTERS, Reporting: Although we have made no reports in the past few months, the church in Wilmington is still here. We have lost a large number of members by them moving away, but some have moved here to help offset the loss. Both attendance and contribution are good, considering everything. Attendance averages around 45 per Sunday, slightly higher during the summer months, and the contribution around $85. In the past few weeks we have seen a sudden outburst of zeal and enthusiasm within the church itself. This, we feel, is one of the greatest steps forward we have seen the church take. Just now, the future of the church in Wilmington looks bright, and we say that WE ARE ON OUR WAY UP.

MARION

M. F. NORWOOD, Reporting: Recently we had a lady to place membership with us and on Aug. 25 a young girl was baptized. This girl attended Carolina Bible Camp the first week. She has attended worship services here for a long time. Aug. 25 marked our largest attendance with 87 present for Bible Study and 99 for worship.

Waymon Love of Spindale, N. C. is directing the song service and I am doing the preaching in a series of gospel meetings in Spruce Pine, N. C. Sept. 2-14 at 7:30 P.M. We are holding services under a tent we borrowed from the church in Hickory, N. C.

The work here is making progress. Our membership is now 36. Three have become unfaithful. I am very much encouraged and prospects are good. This is the first time in 3 years that I can devote full time to the work. I have taught school here in order to stay with the church. I am conducting a 30 minute program over W. T. O. E. (1470) Spruce Pine, N.C. each Saturday 8:00-8:30 A. M. Then each Sunday 7:30-8:00 A.M. over W.B.R.M. (1250) Marion, N. C. This is an enjoyable feature of our work. Beginning in October, I am to have several cottage meetings.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: It is my privilege to serve as the new South Carolina News Editor. My thanks to the staff of the Messenger and to Billy Davidson who preceded me in this work. It is my desire to put the news before the public, both in and out of the church. This can be done successfully with the help of each congregation reporting monthly. There is so much to be told and needs to be told that others might benefit. There is good work being done in South Carolina and I, for one, wish to tell others. I call upon each congregation in this state to join in this simple but important work. It will pay dividends. How I enjoy opening an envelope and reading of the progress in a congregation!

Richard Harp, preacher at Lancaster, made a trip through several Southern states recently. His efforts to raise finances to support the work and the building of a church building in Lancaster were rewarding. They are working on plans now to facilitate bond sales. We pray for their success in the near future. I received Volume one, No. one, of the Aiken Announcer, bulletin of the Aiken church. I was happy to see that an old college friend, Richard Walker, had become the new minister there. The interest is high in the congregation, especially about the plans for a new building. I would like to receive your bulletin and learn of your growth.

NORTH CHARLESTON,

Durant Avenue

J. C. WATKINS, Reporting: Bro. Davidson left the Durant Avenue congregation August 25, 1963 to begin his work in Bristol, Tennessee. To date a preacher has not been selected to replace him. The congregation here wish brother Davidson and his family much success in their new work.

During the month of July four precious souls were baptized into Christ here at Durant Avenue.

Carl Lancaster of Greenville, S. C. will be here in a Gospel Meeting the 15th through the 22nd of September.

FLORENCE

H. P. DODD, Reporting: You who receive the Carolina Messenger will recall our making an announcement that the Big Tent would be here for a meeting beginning September 15. Not being able to secure the fair grounds as we had hoped, we have changed the date to October 27 through November 10. We will appreciate very much you making this known to your congregation. I believe we will have a good meeting. We are going all out to preach the gospel here as it has never been preached before. I hope we are able to aquaint the people here with the church and what it means to this town and others. Any cooperation you can give will be greatly appreciated.

We hope to have a number of gospel preachers from Alabama and other places to help us in personal work, preaching on radio and other ways.

I hope I am getting this to you in time for you to give us a good send off in the Messenger. I note that only a few of the members are subscribing to the Messenger; I hope to be able to get a 100% in a short time. The Messengers I have read are well developed and very constructive articles are in them. I enjoy reading them very much. We here at Florence will do all we can to help support the good work.

Come to the meeting every time you can. Bring all you can get to come. The services will be at 8 o'clock each evening. We plan to have afternoon services on Sunday at 3 o'clock. So come on over and enjoy the feast of good things. The church in Florence will greet you with a warm welcome.

LANCASTER

RICHARD HARP, Reporting: We have just concluded a meeting with Albert Rob–

inson of Murfreesboro, Tennessee doing the preaching. The response was greater than it had been in previous meetings including several visitors from the Lancaster area. There were three baptized during the last service, and the brethren from the Plaza, Rock Hill, Chester and Florence were very faithful to come throughout the week.

We are making plans to pay off our property indebtedness this month which was originally $12,500. We would have been in a building program at this time, however, $225.00 a month of our support was discontinued in June and only $100 of this amount has been raised. The new churches having a part in our support now are: Sherrod Avenue, Florence, Alabama; Portland, Tennessee and Bartlesville, Oklahoma. The brethren at River Road in Nashville and the church in Mocksville still continue their support to this work.

We have planned to construct a new meeting house sometime this year with a complete indebtedness of $20,000. $125 a month is still needed and I will take the last three weeks in August to raise this amount.

The brethren at Lancaster have begun a new work in Kershaw, South Carolina. We meet for a worship service every Sunday afternoon at 3:00 in the home of John Holder. His home is located at 404 West Church Street, and we urge the churches near Kershaw to help us in this effort.

WOODRUFF

OTTIS L. QUALLS, Reporting: The church here recently purchased a projector complete with filmstrips for use in cottage meetings which are now under way.

Our immediate plans call for the remodeling of the church building. These plans also include a house for the preacher to be completed by July of '64. New signs advertizing the church are being painted which will be erected along the highways leading into Woodruff.

We are happy to report two confessions made here recently.

GREENVILLE, Edgewood

ERNEST THIGPEN, Reporting: Our attendance and contribution have increased some the past month. Both were down during the vacation season. Also, we have had four to answer the Lord's invitation since our report to the Messenger last month.

There has been a change in our previously announced gospel meeting plans. Bro. Jim Woodroof was unable to hold our meeting at the time scheduled, and we have engaged brother Rhoden Presnell of Anderson, S. C. to do the preaching. The meeting dates have not been changed. They are October 20-27. Services will be at 7:30 each evening. We trust many will come and visit with us at that time. We covet the prayers of others for us and the work of the churches in Greenville.

CHARLESTON, Sans Souci

CLIFFORD SHAVER, Reporting: The work here at Riverside in Charleston, S. C. is progressing very nicely. Since moving here nine months ago, 11 have been baptized and four restored to the fellowship of the church.

Our new building is in the completion stage, and will be finished this month. This building has an auditorium that will seat 260 people, 11 classrooms, a room which will serve as an office and minister's study and a large two room upstairs nursery. The building and furniture represent an investment of $75,000. Our formal opening service is planned for October 6th at 3:00 P.M.

Brother David Pharr of Gallipolis, Ohio will begin a gospel meeting October 7th through October 13th.

CHESTER

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: The summer months have produced a paradox in the work here. While attendance was generally down, there were other advances

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RESISTING THE DEVIL

BURL CURTIS, Greenville, S. C.

When Paul wrote to the Ephesians, he gave a short admonition about the devil. He wrote, "Be ye angry, and sin not; let not the sun go down upon your wrath; neither give place to the devil" (Eph. 4:26, 27). The devil will always take his place if one is given to him.

It would seem that perhaps the last place the devil would want to present himself would be before the Lord. But the Bible teaches that he will not draw back from this if he can use it to his advantage. In Job 2:1 we read, "Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the Lord." The verses which follow show that he used this meeting as an opportunity to get additional privileges to afflict God's servant, Job.

The devil took his place in the man who had the unclean spirit cast out. Jesus tells us in Matthew 12:43-45 that the unclean spirit returned and found his place swept, garnished and EMPTY. This was the trouble. The man was empty instead of being filled with GOOD. The result was that this evil spirit took seven other spirits, more wicked than himself and they entered and dwelt there.

Are you disobeying God by giving place to the devil? Are you going to give him a place in your anger, in some weakness of your character, or in your failing to pray, study, and assemble with the saints? Let us heed the warning, "Neither give place to the devil," by observing the saying of James, "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

Don't Miss The Annual Meeting

CHESTER (cont'd)

made, notably in four or five baptisms. There have been 15 baptisms to date for the year. We lost a family of six by their move to another city. Brother Marvin Bryant of Gaffney will hold our Fall Meeting, October 20th through the 25th. Our VBS in August produced an average of 83 students daily with a high of 92.

BRADLEYS HONORED AT TESTIMONIAL DINNER

On the evening of October 1 the C. W. Bradley family was honored at a testimonial dinner held in the Renolda Manor Cafeteria in Winston-Salem, N. C. On hand for the occasion were some 87 friends from various parts of the Carolinas. The Bradleys, after working faithfully for eighteen years in the Carolinas, are soon to move to Memphis, Tennessee.

Pictured below is C. R. Franks, Master of Ceremonies, presenting to C. W. Bradley one of the gifts made posssible by donation of friends.

Carolina

MESSENGER of TRUTH

OCTOBER, 1963 VOLUME 5, NUMBER 10

Charlotte, N. C., site of the first annual meeting, Carolina Christian Publications, Inc.

"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

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WHAT WILL IT COST?

Only transportation and the cost of your meal. The meal, banquet arrangements have been made, will cost less than $2.00 per person.

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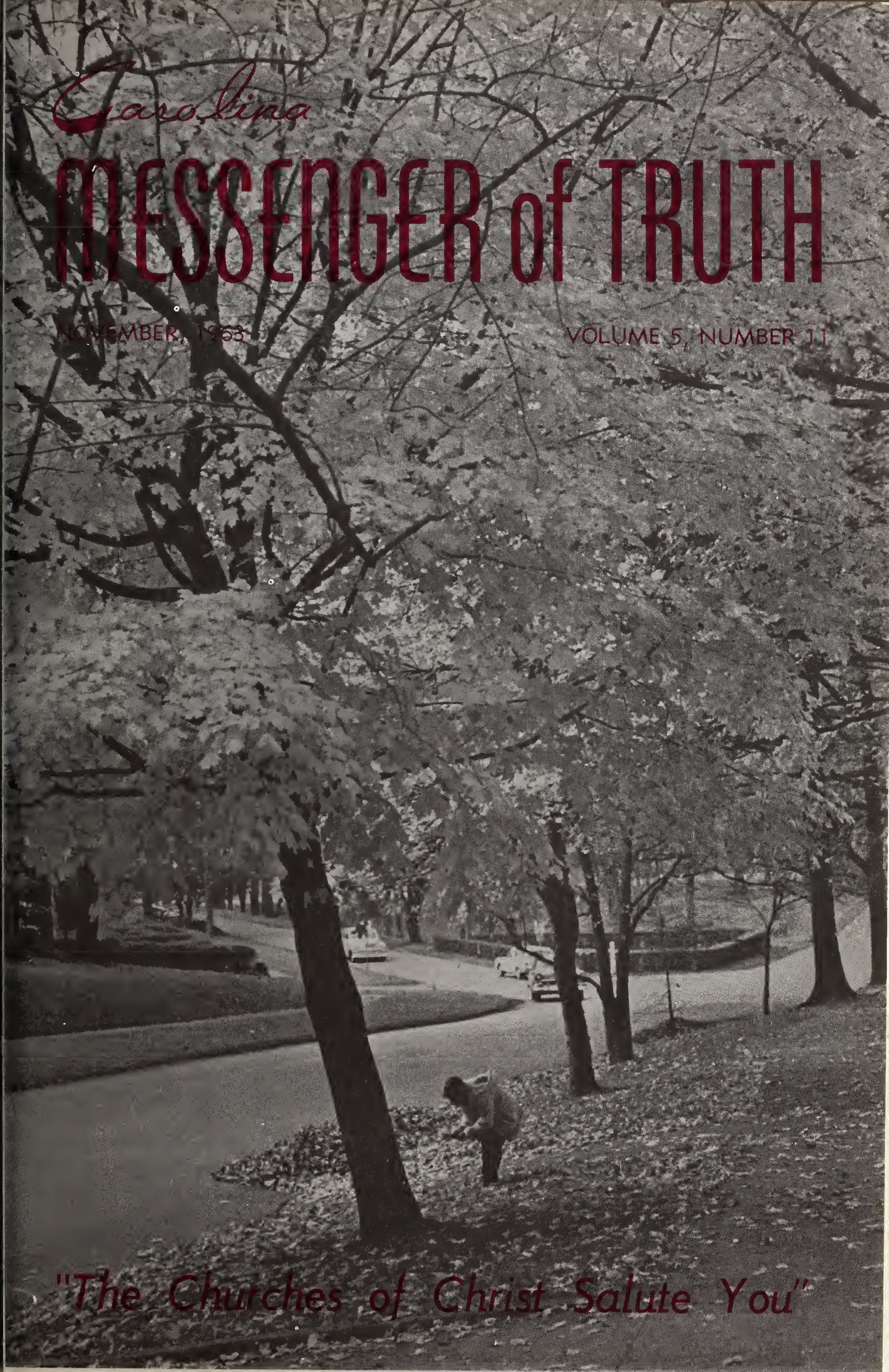
NOVEMBER, 1963

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 11



"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

EDITORIAL: TWO NEW WORKS

LANCASTER AT KERSHAW

By Richard Harp

On Sunday afternoon, August 4 of this year, the first worship service of the church of Christ at Kershaw, S. C. was conducted. There were seventeen people present, most of whom are members of the church at Lancaster. This is a mission program that the brethren here have unitedly decided to undertake. We sincerely believe that through the determined efforts we put forth in work and prayer, through the interest and concern of other churches in the Carolinas, and most of all by the help of the Lord, this new congregation can do much in supporting the cause of Christ in another area.

Kershaw is a cotton mill town seventeen miles south of Lancaster which has a population of about 3,000. There is no church building, no preacher, and no financial support; nevertheless, there are two Christians living there, a widow and her invalid son. We knew that it would be much easier to drive these people to Lancaster, however, this seems to be a wonderful opportunity to establish a new work.

Sometimes in the early spring we plan to find more adequate facilities even if we have to rent a place. When this is arranged then we can plan a gospel meeting. There is a local radio station that provides spot announcements of our worship services, and we hope that within a few months we can buy some time for a regular program. The services are also advertised in the local newspaper.

We have aroused some interest during the past ten weeks. There have been no baptisms, but several members of this family living in the Kershaw area have visited and shown an interest. We plan to conduct a number of cottage meetings within the next few weeks. Gospel tracts will be distributed and a Bible correspondence course offered.

We earnestly urge all the churches within a Sunday afternoon driving distance of Kershaw to support us in this effort by your presence whenever possible. The work is hard and often discouraging when under these circumstances, and the help of other brethren is always appreciated. We are presently meeting for worship in the home of sister John Holder and her son each Sunday at 3:00 P.M. Her house is located at 406 West Church.

We are not at this time soliciting financial support for this new work; however, if anyone would like to contribute to the buying of tracts or time on the local radio station we would be most grateful. But regardless of this, we request that you add this new church to your prayer list.

UNION AT CLINTON

The Elders at Union

U. A. Hall

The church of Christ, Union, S. C. will start preaching the gospel of Christ in Clinton, S. C. on January 1, 1964.

Clinton, S. C. is located in Laurens County, 64 miles northeast of Columbia, 37 miles from Spartanburg and 25 miles from Union, S. C. Clinton has 11,000 population in the

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CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH
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Essential Elements In Vital Christian Experience

Leslie G. Thomas, Asheville, N. C.

We call attention to this model article and offer a few suggestions which should prove helpful to those who are preparing manuscripts for the book, Carolina Pulpit. Each writer is requested to use correct sentence structure, correct spelling, and correct punctuation; however, the committee and the editor will make needed corrections. The primary consideration in the selection of a sermon to be used in the book will be the QUALITY of material.

In this article, you will notice that the heading is in capitals, as well as those of the various divisions. There should be from three to five of the latter. Unless scripture citations are a part of the sentence (see pages 6 and 7 under THERE MUST BE GREAT GRATITUDE), they should be inclosed in parentheses. Each page, except the first, should be numbered. The full name of the scripture citation should be given, not abbreviated, as 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20. If more than two verses are cited, that is, consecutive verses, use the hyphen, as Acts 9:1-9; where only two verses are cited, use the comma, as 1 Timothy 2:3, 4. ---Editor.

Even a casual observer of professed Christians today is well aware of the fact that religion does not affect all in the same way. There are some who have a real and vivid faith, and who find great satisfaction in participating in the various activities which Christianity enjoins. But there are others who, while regarding the religion of Jesus as being both desirable and necessary, manifest little or no enthusiasm regarding their faith. How can we account for this difference?

When we turn to the New Testament and read about the early Christians, we find them rejoicing in their newly-found faith, and experiencing great delight in their service to Christ, even when that service brought them bitter persecution. (Cf. Acts 8:39; 16:34; Hebrews 10:32-34.) We must conclude therefore that the difference between Christians is not due to Christianity itself.

There is, however, another source from which we may be able to find the answer to the question now before us, namely, the attitude which some manifest toward the religion of Christ. It may be that some of those who profess to be the Lord's people have not been willing to take the steps necessary in order to have a vital Christian experience. An experience is closely related to an experiment; and if one really wants a vital Christian experience, he should be willing to make the necessary experiment. But in studying this lesson, let us ask, What are the elements which are essential to a vital Christian experience? There are, we believe, at least four; and it is our purpose to discuss all four of them at this time. The first one is this,

THERE MUST BE THE REALIZATION OF A GREAT NEED

It should be obvious to any thoughtful person that no one can even appreciate Christianity, to say nothing of having a vital Christian experience, without a profound sense of need. Some people may think of need as a sign of weakness, but any one who stops to think knows that there is no truer test of the status of any person, than the size and quality of his need. (Cf. Luke 15:11-24.) Any one who feels his own self-sufficiency can never enjoy a vital Christian experience. (Cf. Mat-

(see page 4)

thew 5:3.)

It is not possible, in the time alloted for this study, to consider all of our needs; but, in order to make this lesson practical, we shall mention three which are always urgent, namely, (1) our physical needs--food, clothing, and shelter; (2) the forgiveness of our sins; and (3) interior resources of spiritual power to enable us to deal adequately with life's strains, overcome its temptations, and fulfill its possibilities.

Need is indeed the common lot of mankind; but it is a recognizable fact that the sense of need does not come to everyone in the same way. The rich man of Luke 16:19-31, for example, did not realize his need for food, in the same way that Lazarus did. How many people, like Saul of Tarsus, refuse to eat or drink until they are assured that their sins are forgiven? (See Acts 9:1-9.) Few men have suffered for the cause of Christ as Paul did; but it was through such an experience that he came to realize that his help came from God. (See Acts 26:12-23; 2 Timothy 4:16-18; Philippians 4:13.)

THERE MUST BE A GREAT SALVATION

We mean by salvation the relief or deliverance from our needs; and inasmuch as our greatest need is deliverance from the condemnation of sin, that is the most important salvation which can come to us. This is the salvation which is called "great" in the New Testament (Hebrews 2:3); and it is certain that nothing else of it is missed. (Cf. Matthew 16:26.)

All people who have reach the age of accountability are in need of this salvation; for it is not possible for any one to go to God without it. The human race was alienated from God through the sin of Adam; and that, along with our own personal sins, makes it utterly impossible for us to have fellowship with the heavenly Father without a Saviour. (See Romans 5:12-21; cf. Isaiah 59:1,2.) Jesus has made possible the salvation which we so desperately need (Hebrews 2:9); and he is able to save to the uttermost them that draw near unto God through him. (See Hebrews 7:25; cf. Matthew 1:21; 2 Timothy 2:10; Acts 4:12; Mark 16:15,16.) God, in fact, does not want any one to be lost, and he has, accordingly, made provisions for the salvation of all who desire it. (Cf. 1 Timothy 2:3,4; 2 Peter 3:9.)

There is, however, another phase of the Lord's salvation which applies to many of us, and that is the opportunity for a second chance for those who may fall by the wayside. Many people fail Jesus after their initial salvation; and, falling back into sin, they are again in danger of eternal destruction, if something isn't done. (Cf. 2 Peter 2:20-22; 1 John 1:8,9; Acts 8:22.)

THERE MUST BE GREAT GRATITUDE

No one can understand the New Testament, and especially the driving power of Christianity, without realizing that a profound need met by a great salvation results in deep thankfulness. This proposition is clearly and forcefully illustrated in 1 Timothy 1:12-17. There is, indeed, no greater example of this truth, than the one which Paul furnishes.

One of the remarkable things about the church of the New Testament is the fact that it advertises itself as being in constant need of salvation (there are not perfect Christians, and they are therefore frequent sinners), and welcomes sinners into its fellowship, that is, redeemed sinners, but who will not be able to live entirely apart from sin. All thoroughly informed saints, therefore, are confessed sinners. (Cf. James 3:2; Hebrews 4:14-16.) However, no one can fully appreciate this truth until he realizes that a great need was met by a great salvation, and has issued forth in great thankfulness.

That which has just been said sets forth the reason why the Lord's supper, to the

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Forsaking The Assemblies

J. H. Blackman, Jr., Salisbury, N. C.

One of the most plaguing situations to face the church has been the utter idsregard for the church assembly. Members who flatly refuse to present themselves at the church services have manifested an overt disregard for Christ, His word and the church. Satan is using these members to undermind the whole of Christ's teaching.

Christ says, "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments" (John 14:15). This means more than just saying we love the Lord. This passage carries with it acts of love manifested in the obedient following of the Lord's commands. The thought here is the same as in 1 John 3:18, "My little children, let us not love in word, neither with the tongue; but in deed and truth." Therefore, we are to do more than just utter with our mouths that we love our fellowman and God. Our love is to be exhibited in such a way as to demonstrate its reality.

Christ speaking again on love toward God stated, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength" (Mark 12:30). Those who absent themselves from the assemblies certainly do not love the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind, or strength. Love calls into play every part of our being in the obedience of God's will completely rejecting a partial love. "No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Luke 16:13). It is evident by the action of those who refuse to assemble (when not hindered by things beyond their control), that their love is not for the Lord.

Paul said, "Faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire that thou affirm confidently, to the end that they who have believed God may be careful to maintain good works" (Titus 3:8). The assembly is certainly performing a good work in teaching (encouraging the weak and convincing the sinner of sin), praying, singing, giving, and communing with Christ at his table. Those who are absent certainly are not helping to maintain these Christian works in the assemblies. Who will say this is not a good work? Who will say that when Christ purchased an institution with his blood that he performed a worthless work? Well, my wayward brother or sister, you are when you are not present. Your absence has sounded loud and clear that it is not good and should be discontinued while the Holy Spirit admonishes us not to forsake.

"Let us draw near with a true heart in fulness of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience: having our body washed with pure water, let us hold fast the confession of our hope that it waver not; for he is faithful that promised: and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works; not forsaking our own assembling together, as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day drawing nigh. For if we sin wilfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and a fierceness of fire which shall devour the adversaries" (Hebrews 10:22-27).

Those who are absenting themselves from the church services are not only without true Christian love, but have nev-

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Introduction To The Bible, No. 3: The Part I Need To Obey

Ray Moses, Greenville, S. C.

A neighbor once said to me, "If a man will just obey the Ten Commandments he will be all right." Now if obeying the Ten Commandments, or obeying all of the law, were an adequate way for the saving of a lost world, then all the sufferings of Jesus at Gethsemane and on Calvary were useless.

However, there is enough confusion in people's thinking about the law of Moses to justify me in writing briefly in defense of two propositions. First, the law of Moses was addressed to Israelites and to Israelites only. Second, the law of Moses has been replaced so far as all Christians are concerned.

Notice to whom the Ten Commandments and the rest of the law of Moses are addressed. "You have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if you will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine." (Exodus 19:4, 5.)

Without including any other people, God says, "I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." (Exodus 20:2.) Then he proceeds to give them the Ten Commandments.

When the Ten Commandments are repeated in Deuteronomy, part of the introduction is, "And Moses called all Israel and said unto them, 'Hear O Israel the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that you may learn them, and keep, and do them.'" (Deuteronomy 5:1, 2.)

To emphasize that the law was for Israelites only, we turn to Ezekiel. "Thus saith the Lord God; O ye house of Israel, let it suffice you of all your abominations, in that you have brought into my sanctuary strangers, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh---and have broken my covenant because of all your abominations." (Ezekiel 44:6, 7.)

Turning to our second proposition, God informed Moses that the laws which he had declared for the Israelites were not the complete and final revelation of God's will for men. "I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. And it shall come to pass that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him." (Deuteronomy 18:18, 19.)

Jeremiah clearly foretold that God would make a new covenant with the Israelites. "Behold the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. Not according to the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was a husband unto them, saith the Lord." (Jeremiah 31:31, 32.)

The new covenant was not to be new wine in old bottles or a new patch on an old garment. It was to replace the old covenant completely.

Coming to the mount of transfiguration, we find Peter proposing to make three tabernacles, one for Moses, one for Elias, and one for Jesus--speaking of them as equals. But the voice from the bright cloud above them said of Jesus, "This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased;

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SATAN: Man or Myth

Bob Herndon, Shelby, N. C.

In preparation for a recent lesson entitled, "Devices of Satan", I visited the local public library in hopes of learning more about the nature of the Devil. What I learned surprised me; perhaps it shouldn't in this modern age. It seems that Satan doesn't really exist, that such a thought is ridiculous now that modern science has removed him from reality and placed him in ancient mythology. Read what three well-known encyclopedias have to say on the subject (emphasis and parenthetical comments mine, BH):

WORLD BOOK: "In modern times people tend to believe less and less in a devil as an actual person." (unbelief was prevalent in ancient times also: "And some believed the things which were spoken and some believed not." Acts 28:24.)

ENCYCLOPEDIA AMERICANA: "The modern tendancy is to regard the personal Devil as a part of the MYTHOLOGY of early times when men conceived the world forces as endowed with personal form. This is due to the advance of medical and natural science, better methods of historical criticism and modern philosophy". (Let Paul answer this: "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God." I Cor. 3:19.)

ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA: "...it may be confidently affirmed that belief in Satan is not now generally regarded as an essential article in the Christian faith, nor is it found to be an indispensable element of Christian experience. (Read II John 9 and learn what is "essential.")

On the one hand science has so EXPLAINED many of the processes of outer nature and of the inner life of man as to leave no room for Satanic agency. (Here's human wisdom, again.) On the other hand the MODERN VIEW of the inspiration of the Scriptures does not necessitate the acceptance of the doctrine of the Scriptures on this subject as finally and absolutely authoritative. (In other words we're free to pick and choose what we wish to believe.)

The preaching of Jesus even... may be either an accommodation to the views of those with whom he was dealing or more probably a proof of the LIMITATION OF KNOWLEDGE which was a NECESSARY CONDITION of the Incarnation, for it cannot be contended that it was imperative that he should either correct or confirm men's beliefs in this respect. (Doesn't sound like the Christ of the gospels, does it?)

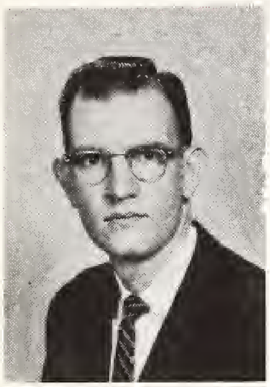
(Here's the clincher;) The possibility of the existence of evil spirits, organized under one leader Satan to tempt man and oppose God, cannot be denied; the sufficiency of the evidences for such evil agency may be doubted; the necessity of any such belief for Christian thought and life cannot, therefore, be affirmed".

After reading the above, we should each resolve to learn more about God's will and word so that we can more effectively combat the "modern" teaching of the day. This is especially true of those w th children, since children are exposed to this false teaching in reference materials and in other ways.

SPECIAL ISSUE--The December issue will have as its subject material RESPONSIBILITIES OF A CHRISTIAN. Noyles E. Sewell of Kinston, N. C. will be guest editor.

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny C. Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.



Ronald W. Huddleston, M. D., and family are planning to leave the states on January 1 for Tanganyika, East Africa where Huddleston will work as a medical missionary. The church and mission school have been ordered by the Tanganyikan government to establish a 50 bed hospital and provide a doctor or forfiet its property and remove its missionaries. Tanganyika has a population of 9,238,000 and is 1 and 1/2 times the size of Texas. However, there are only 10 doctors in the country. Jerry Mays, M. D., who must return to the states soon, sometimes sees 250 patients a day at the hospital in Chimala. The mission property consists of 3 cottages for native men and their families who are enrolled in the school, a dormitory for single boys, a home for the missionaries (the Andrew Connallys), a church building, dispensary, and hospital.

Sixteen years ago, in 1947, the first American missionaries of the church of Christ began work on European soil. Congregations are presently meeting in every European country west of the iron curtain except Portugal and Luxembourg. The total attendance at the Sunday services of European churches of Christ is over 3,000.

S. F. Timmerman, Jr., who for the past 15 years has been preaching in Belgium, will move to Montreal in the summer of 1964 to launch a work among the French speaking people there. Fifteen years ago no churches of Christ met in Belgium. There are presently 8 congregations in that country.

Hans G. Grimm, now 64, who spent 2 years in a Nazi concentration camp and 4 years in a Russian prison camp, is the minister of the church in Biel, Switzerland.

Otis Gatewood reports that on his recent trip to Helsinki, Finland he found the minister, Eddie Dunn, greatly handicapped in his work for lack of a car. "We in America, "brother Gatewood wrote, "who have 2 cars in our garages should give liberally that these faithful missionaries might at least have one."

The 9th. annual Far East Asia Fellowship will be conducted November 25-30 in Tachikawa, Japan, 25 miles NE of Tokyo. Missionaries and military and native Christians from Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Okinawa, the Philippines, and Southeast Asia are expected to attend. John H. Banister of Dallas, Texas will be the principal speaker.

Of the five American preachers in Thailand, two have contracted hepatitis. Dorsey Traw has been confined to bed for two months and William Beck for over one month.

J. C. Bailey entered India April 26 as a gospel minister. He reports that nearly a century ago Presbyterians from Wales preached in Assam, India and converted many. About 1932 some members of that denomination were persuaded that certain practices of the Presbyterians were not in keeping with the Bible and so made an attempt at reform but failed. They then started what they believed was the only church of Christ in the world. Before World War II a businessman, returning to India from the states, reported many churches of Christ in this country. Since Indian independance no American preachers have been permitted to enter the country, but Bailey, on a Canadian visa, is now there...to be of what help he can to our brethren in India.

On September 1 the church in Lahore, Pakistan met for the first time in a newly constructed house of worship. The building seats 70, but 100 were present. The Lahore congregation had its beginning in February, 1961 when Gordon Hogan en-

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TWO NEW WORKS (cont'd)

city, 47,000 within a radius of 15 miles, 99% native born with 80.2% white people. Clinton has eleven denominations consisting of twenty-one churches. There are two hundred and twenty five retailers and wholesalers along with twelve factories located in Clinton. Two radio stations are in operation and a Presbyterian College with an enrollment of five hundred and twenty-five. Thornwell Orphanage is located here and cares for 400 children annually along with Whitten Village, which trains slow-learning children of the entire state.

RADIO TAPES AVAILABLE

ABILENE, Texas--Each week since early 1952, the radio-television division of the Department of Speech at Abilene Christian College has prepared a weekly taped radio program entitled "Worship In Song."

The tapes are available to individuals or congregations who might want to have them broadcast over local stations. The cost is $1 per week to cover the cost of production and mailing.

The 15-minute program is now being broadcast by 17 radio stations throughout the U.S. on a sustaining time basis.

According to Dr. Lowell G. Perry, director of the ACC radio division, many stations will make sustaining time available for this type of program since it is complete and ready for broadcast. Also, they like to broadcast some hymns in order to supplement their other programming. Thus, interested congregations or individuals may wish to take advantage of these programs.

The tapes are complete 15-minute programs and the college is mentioned only three times.

Those interested in using these tapes at the handling cost of $1 may contact Dr. Lowell G. Perry, Box 215, ACC Station, Abilene, Texas, 79601.

GROWING INTEREST IN THE PAPER – Burl Curtis

We are thankful for your interest in the Messenger and especially to our friends who have used the paper from the beginning. Many of you have not missed an issue since the Messenger first appeared in January, 1959. Since we have operated as a non-profit corporation, we have been able to make marked improvements. At our planning meeting in November, we will outline steps for improvement next year. Most of the improvements result from the wider active interest on the part of many people in both Carolinas. Let us go onward!

Will you be a worker for the Messenger in your community? We are asking that you use your opportunities to obtain subscriptions. A single subscription is $2.00 per year; clubs of five or more are $1.50 per year; bundles, 15 or more are 10¢ per copy. We have found it effective to make regular announcements to the congregation. Whenever you have an opportunity to ask for subscriptions at an area singing you will find that the interest is good and usually you will obtain a few subscriptions.

Some congregations are finding that they have copies left from their bundle orders. What can you do with those that are left? (1) Most churches will have none left if they will get a couple of the young men to distribute one to each family. (2) Make the little extra effort it takes to mail them to congregations supporting mission work in the Carolinas. (3) Hand the extra copies to a friend. This will help you acquaint him with some of the activities of the churches of Christ.

We hope that you plan to attend the annual meeting of Carolina Christian Publications, Inc. We are very hopeful that a large number will attend.

Please remember to send change of address two months in advance. This will assure your not missing a copy and will save us money. Each returned copy cost us 10¢.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS (cont'd)

Christian who understands it, is the climax of Christian worship. Some people, with the thought of our lesson in mind, speak of the Lord's supper as the Eucharist (a term, however, not authorized by the Scriptures), because that is the Greek word for "thanks" of "thank you." The Lord's supper is the symbol of the price which was paid for the Christian's salvation; and when he eats it as he should, he is expressing deep gratitude. Any person without a sense of gratfulness cannot be very enthusiastic about his religion.

THRE MUST BE A GREAT COMPULSION

When any one realizes that a profound need has been met by a great salvation, and which as issued forth in deep gratefulness, the result is that something has taken hold of him; and he no longer considers himself as his own (cf. 1 Corinthians 6:19,20). There is something which impels him. (Cf. Galatians 2:20; Philippians 3:12.)

But compulsion is not something which is peculiar to the Christian religion; it is a part of every man's experience. Life, in one way or another, coerces all of us; no one can escape the word "must." But how great is the difference between those who are merely creatures of circumstances, being pushed and pulled by outside forces, and those who have been redeemed by Christ, and who are impelled from within! (Cf. Acts 19:21; 21:7-14; 26:19, 20.)

The greatest need which the world has today is for the kind of character which this lesson sets forth--the kind of character which, in gratefulness for salvation from sin, is willing to spend and be spent in the Lord's service. When one pleads for that kind of character he is pleading for that which man at his best must have, if he is to be satisfied. (Cf. Psalms 17:15.)

FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLIES (cont'd)

er drawn near the Lord with "a true heart in fulness of faith." They are not holding fast the confession of our hope forgetting these words: "But whosoever shall deny me before my Father who is in h fore my Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 10:33). I know of no more significant way to deny Christ than to refuse to meet with him and his people to praise his holy name.

Furthermore, how is it possible to arouse our fellow-Christians to love the Lord and maintain good works while we do not. Our actions in refraining from assembling together shows clearly our lack of love and obedience to his work. Especially, when we are instructed by the Holy Spirit to do these very things.

My dear fellow-Christian, when you stay away from the church assemblies, for reasons other than those beyond your control, you deliberately commit sin, bringing the condemnation of God upon you. It is impossible to please God while refusing to assemble with the saints when you take a notion.

May you, who are guilty of this flagrant sin, repent of your denial of the Lord and his work. Also, repent of the disgrace you have brought upon the church and the bad example set before others, that you may escape the "fearful expectation of judgment, and a fierceness of fire which shall devour the adversaries" of the Lord.

INTRODUCTION TO BIBLE (cont'd)

hear him." (Matthew 17:5.)

When Jesus was instituting the Lord's supper, he said, "This is my blood of the new testament, etc." His meaning would not have been changed if the translators had used the words "new covenant." (Matthew 26:28.)

We believe that when Peter laid down the terms under which people could be saved on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38) and at the house of Cornelius (Acts 10:48) he was using the keys of the kingdom of heaven which Jesus promised him. (Matthew 16:19.) In neither case did he mention anything about keeping the law of Moses.

When the very question of keeping the law came up in the church at Antioch, the matter was referred to the church at Jerusalem. There a group of elders and apostles, among whom were Peter, Paul, and James, wrote a letter and also sent messengers to Gentile brethren in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia, to say, along with some injunctions to Christian living, "Forasmuch as we have heard that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words perverting your soul, saying, 'Ye must be circumcised and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment." (Acts 15:24.)

Probably at a later date, Paul writing as a Jewish Christian to the Galatian brethren says, "The law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come we are no longer under a schoolmaster." (Galatians 3:24, 25.)

To the Christians at Colosse, Paul wrote, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross." (Colossians 2:14.)

Others of the many scriptures that might be cited are: "In that he sayeth a new covenant, he maketh the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away." (Hebrews 8:13.)

"Then said He, Lo I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first that he may establish the second." (Hebrews 10:9.)

"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth." (Romans 10:4.)

"Christ has become of no effect unto you, whoever of you is justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace." (Galatians 5:4.)

If any part of Moses' law is now in force it is through its being reaffirmed in the New Covenant. In general the New Covenant is more positive, more spiritual, more heart-searching than the old. Instead of a mere command not to kill, it says, "Love your enemies and do good." (Luke 6:35.) People who get the principles of the New Testament in their minds and hearts can live together in an eternity of peace and happiness.

BROTHERHOOD NEWS (cont'd)

tered Pakistan as the first missionary supported by churches of Christ to that nation. J. C. Choate is also preaching in Pakistan.

Frank Van Dyke, age 48, departed this life on Sunday, September 22 following a prolonged illness. Van Dyke served as head of the Bible Department of Freed-Hardeman College until 1961 when ill health forced his retirement.

Willard Collins will speak in a city wide Gospel Meeting Series in St. Louis, Mo. This effort is being supported by 38 congregations and each service will be televised.

It took from Adam to 1832 for the population of the world to reach one billion. By 1932 the number had increased to two billion and by the end of 1962 the population of the world was three billion. Within 40 years the number is expected to reach 6 billion. Whereas, the world's teeming masses, in need of the gospel, grow increasing larger, the number of men presently in our colleges preparing to preach the gospel fulltime is 250. According to statistics compiled by William C. Hatcher more than 250 preachers of the church of Christ die, retire, or go into other fields of endeavor each year.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

BILL SHELTON, *N.C. News Editor*

BILLY DAVIDSON, *S.C. News Editor*

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

GREENVILLE

"An unwelcome exodus has thinned our ranks and marred a happy fellowship in recent months by virtue of moves to other areas. The Burnice Paramores left August 9 for Painesville, Ohio, while the Frank Dawkins left September 4 for Germany via Memphis, Tennessee. These were two of our most faithful families, whose presence and usefulness in every phase of the work and worship of the church was much appreciated.

One response to the invitation came August 18 in the confession of unfaithfulness and request for the prayers of the church for more dedicated Christian Living. It is the big heart and great faith with deep love that leads to repentance and prayer unto restoration and stedfastness. Others who wilfully forsake the assembly for worship and otherwise sin when knowing to do good (James 4:17) would do well to 'go thou and do likewise.'

Suggestive records over the past three months are averaged as follows: Bible Study (est.) 33; Morning worship 36; Evening Worship 19; Midweek 15; Contribution $62.87. Very welcome additions to our work here are had in the James C. Dixon family, from High Point, N. C. Jim and Helen (one daughter-Susan) are now teaching in our Bible classes and giving the kind of encouragement faithful Christians always give to the Lord's work.

GASTONIA

This note was received from Bro. Bobby Reynolds, 804 E. Main St., Watertown, Tennessee:

"While on vacation Sept. 1, it was my pleasure to preach at Gastonia, N. C. where I labored some 3 years and 3 months."

CHARLOTTE, Westside

T. C. GALLOWAY, Reporting: The Westside church continues to move ahead. We have secured a building lot on Thrift Road and hope to start building procedures by the first of the year. We have about $5,000 in the building fund and our plans are to issue bonds.

Several of the brethren here have been filling in for the colored congregation at Burton Street while they are without a preacher. Westside is blessed with a number of talented men.

Bro. Johnny Sewell attended the lectures at N.I.C.E. in Villanova, Pa.

When in Charlotte worship with us at 2651 Rozzells Ferry Road.

WILMINGTON

HOWARD WINTERS, Reporting: The church in Wilmington has just closed a great meeting. Bro. Virgil Hale from Whiteville, N. C. did the preaching in a wonderful way. And, I might add, it has not been my pleasure to work with a finer preacher than is Bro. Hale. He exceeded all expectations. Any church would be fortunate to secure him for a meeting. A number of important things happened during the meeting: 1. One young boy, who has attended services for only a few weeks was baptized. 2. A good number of people from here in town attended services for the first time. 3. We used the newspaper to advertise, and many people have made good comments about our ads. Just now we feel that this was the most successful advertised meeting we have had. 4.

Two of the local radio stations gave us one fifteen minute program each, and the newspaper carried a good news item about the meeting. This points up a fact: we are now being noticed by the town, and people are learning that we mean business. 5. We set a goal of 75 for the Sunday morning of the meeting. Although we only had 66, we are sure that our drive was profitable. For the closing service, which was on Sunday night, 67 assembled. 6. The contribution reached a high mark of $134.43 on the Sunday of the meeting. All in all, we had a truly great meeting, which just reaffirms the fact that WILMINGTON IS ON ITS WAY UP.

VALDESE

MADELINE C. BROWN, Reporting: We have just closed a gospel meeting with Bro. Goebel Music of Little Rock, Ark. as the visiting evangelist. This was a good meeting in every sense of the word; the interest, the attendance, the comments and the excellent preaching. This preacher pictures himself as such an insignificant creature in God's creation, and his message is so direct, to the point, and true to the Bible, that his audience listens attentively almost spellbound as though we are about the size of ants working in God's vineyard when we could and should be as giants in Christian work. An example of the way he preaches is this statement he made, based on I Cor. 6:19-20. "I have no right to demand my rights as a Christian. The greatest right or the greatest freedom I have is to yield my rights or my freedoms as a Christian, for I am bought with a price and I am not my own." It is truly a revival of our knowledge, and our faith, designed to furnish us with the courage, determination and stamina to try harder in the future than we have in the past to live and work as Christians should.

There were nine responses in this memorable Gospel meeting. Seven precious souls were restored to their first love, and two were baptized into Christ. To this soul-stirring preacher, we, the people of Valdese and adjacent communities say, "God bless you, Bro. Music and we hope to see you again in the not too distant future".

Averages for the month of September are as follows:

Bible Readers	19.4
Bible School	29
Worship	36
Sunday Night	21.8
Contribution	$173.71

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: South Carolina news had been scarace for the last month. Many with good intentions have not sent in a report. I know there must be good news to report from many places, so share with others your successes and plans.

UNION

Sis. Parker, wife of Milton Parker at Union, fell and broke her arm recently. We pray for her a speedy recovery. The work in Union continues to grow with the new work planned for Clinton, S. C., in January. Any congregation anywhere will find this a good work to help support. Contact the elders in Union right away.

AIKEN

The church in Aiken had an average of 145 for Sunday morning services and an average contribution of $229.00 for the month of September. Richard Walker, the minister, says the church has fine potential, especially if they can build a new church building in the near future.

NORTH CHARLESTON,

Durant Ave. church in North Charleston reports a record 245 for Bible study and 316 for the morning service. Four were baptized and one placed membership recently.

COLUMBIA, Park Avenue

Speaking with Ralph Seiders, preacher at Park Ave. church in Columbia, I learned of the fine work being done by the brethren there among the colored people. The Union congregation helps support this work each month, .and perhaps others of whom I do not know. We hope to have a fuller report on this work in the next report.

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GREENVILLE, Poinsett Highway

For the past fourteen months this church has been laboring without a regular preacher. During this time there have been five baptisms and four restorations. Bible school attendance has averaged 80 and contributions $250 per week, both figures representing an increase over the previous year. Good sermons and an impressive weekly bulletin have been supplied largely from within the membership.

For the past year and a half a program of financial support to the Nicholtown congregation, the church for the colored in Greenville, has been maintained. That church has more than justified the confidence of our brethren. The attendance at Nicholtown is now over 100 at Bible study and the contribution is about $100 per week each having doubled over the period of our aid. Brother J. W. Kennedy, their preacher, is doing an outstanding work. During November Buford C. Holt, formerly of McMinnville, Tenn., is scheduled to begin local work with the Poinsett church. His coming will approximately coincide with the completion of construction on a four-bedroom preacher's home.

NORTH CHARLESTON Durant

J. C. WATKINS, Reporting: We enjoyed a successful Gospel Meeting here September 15 through September 22. We wish to express our appreciation to Carl Lancaster of Greenville, S. C., for his masterful presentation of the Gospel during this meeting. Also our thanks to Dorian Dodd for the excellent manner in which he directed the singing.

Four were baptized during the meeting, two of which gave up denominational error to become members of the Lord's church. We are thankful for all four of these people and pray that they will be diligent workers for the cause of Christ.

To date a new preacher has not been selected for the church here. We are fortunate to have several capable brethren who have been sharing the preaching duties in the absence of a full time worker.

LANCASTER

RICHARD HARP, Reporting: During the past few weeks, the church at Lancaster has made more progress toward the construction of a new meeting house. We have sold the old dwelling in which we have worshipped for the past two years. It will be torn down the last two weeks in October so that excavation can be started on our lot. We have the plans for the building in the hands of local contractors who will turn in their bids by November 5. Construction should begin sometimes in late November or the first of December.

Our plans call for an auditorium seating 200 people with six class rooms, a nursery and office space. We feel that we have one of the best locations in Lancaster -- a corner lot two blocks from Main street and one block from the Chester and Rock Hill Highways. It is centrally located and just across the street from a newly built elementary school. Our own parking facilities will be limited providing space for only about twenty cars, nevertheless, we have access to a public parking lot also across the street.

This building will be financed through the sale of first mortgage bonds which will go on sale November 1st. The members of the church in the Carolinas are urged to seriously consider investing in these bonds at 6% interest while at the same time helping us finance our building.

The lack of proper facilities and financial support has been a hinderance to the work at Lancaster. However, we are finally able to take a higher step in gaining the respect and recognition that is so neccessary in influencing people today. We believe the church here has a bright future, and we earnestly request that your prayers be in our behalf.

CHESTER

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: Due to a broken arm sustained by Marvin Bryant of Gaffney, our Fall meeting scheduled for October was postponed until the week of November 3rd. Bro. Bryant is healing nicely and will be ready at that time. The church here has initiated a new personal work program and Sunday evening classes for the young people. We plan to have a teacher training class in the near future.

Bro. Bryant at Gaffney reports that 10 members of a Baptist church there have obeyed the gospel and taken their stand for New Testament Christianity. Among those baptized was the preacher and his son, also a liscened Baptist preacher. They are working well together and the potential of more obeying the gospel soon is very evident.

UNION

MILTON S. PARKER, Reporting: September was a good month with the church here. Bro. P. L. Manning did the preaching in a very good meeting. Average attendance for the meeting was 103; there was one baptism, and a good number of non-members were present for each service. In all, five have been baptized during September. Sunday night, September 29th., we had 115 present, which was a record high for Sunday night.

The elders continue with plans to begin a congregation in Clinton, S. C. the first of the year. Bro. U. A. Hall has been selected to work with this new congregation.

DUNCAN

ROY BURGESS, Reporting: I closed a meeting in Glasgow, Montana, Sept. 29. Four were baptized. Huntsville Park and Glover's Chapel (Huntsville, Ala.) supported this effort. I preached at 3:00 PM to a full house in the Community building in Fort Peck. I am now in Alachua Florida in a good meeting. I start Oct. 20 with Duncan, S. C. and begin a meeting there the 27th.

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GREENVILLE

BURL CURTIS, Reporting: September was one of the better months at Northeast. We set a new record in giving with $106.80 per week. Our attendance and interest is very good.

Last fall we announced our plans to completely pay for our 2.08 acre building lot on the Wade Hampton Boulevard. We entered this year owing approximately $9,000 and now our lot debt is $2,685.22. We are very thankful to everyone who has helped us in this effort. The Northeast church has met its goal of putting $4,000 into the lot.

Bill Smith of Valdese, N. C. will be with us in a meeting Nov. 8-15. Services will be at 7:30 except on Sunday evening. Our Sunday evening services are at 6:00. Plan to visit with us during this meeting. We meet in the United Commercial Travelers Building, Greenacre Road, near Pleasantburg Shopping Center.

LETTERS

Please find enclosed my personal check for $5.00 which I wish to contribute to the "Messenger." I certainly approve and appreciate the changes made thus far. I feel certain that other improvements will be made in the future. My greatest criticism is that much of the news is "ancient history" by the time I receive the Messenger. I received my October issue today (Oct. 22) which is some improvement over previous months. I hope something can be done in this area before too long. I hope to send in some subscriptions around the first of the year.

ANNUAL FALL MEETING

CAROLINA CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS, INC.

NOVEMBER 22, 1963

Barclay Cafeteria, Amity Gardens Shopping Center
Charlotte, N. C.

2:00 P.M., Business Meeting: Board of Directors and Advisory Board.

6:00 P.M., Dinner Meeting: Guest Speaker, Jim Bill McInteer.

“Subject: “The Effect of Religious Journalism on the Restoration Movement.”

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Carolina MESSENGER of TRUTH

December 1963 Volume 5, Number 12

JERICHO CHURCH OF CHRIST
Oldest Congregation in the Carolinas

"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

EDITORIAL: Christian Responsibility

Noyles E. Sewell, Kinston, N. C.

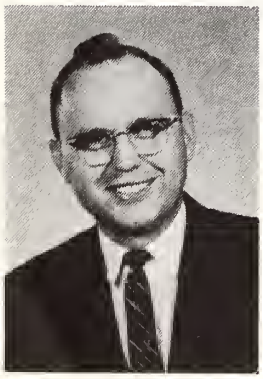
If the Bible teaches any one doctrine with perfect clearness, it is that of the personal relationship and the personal accountability of every individual before God. With every blessing extended by him there comes a corresponding responsibility. The very fact that we are alive places upon each of us a personal responsibility to eat, drink, sleep, and protect ourselves from the elements, so that life continues. The blessings of family life lay upon us special responsibilities toward parents, mates, and children. Certain other benefits come to us through the organization of society into civil governments, bringing also attendant responsibilities. Above every other responsibility, yet touching each of them, is our responsibility to Almighty God. When this responsibility to God is fully realized and accompanied by proper instruction in the will of God, every other responsibility is cheerfully accepted. The child of God, therefore, is not so much one who has greater responsibilities, but one who is accepting and discharging all of his responsibilities.

The one great need in this confused and misguided world today is a sense of individual responsibility, first toward God, and then through him to the church, our homes, our governments, our fellow man, and ourselves. This sense of responsibility is threatened by the socialist philosophies and by ecclesiasticism, both of which encourage the transfer of individual responsibility to the state, as touching the things expected and absolving the individual of any guilt as touching crimes against society.

Christians have the responsibility to fully acquaint themselves with their responsibilities and as guest editor of this issue I have the responsibility of helping you to do this. With the prayer that we can both discharge these responsibilities, I commend to your reading the fine articles contained within these pages.

RESPONSIBILITY TO GOD

C. E. Mannon, Greenville, N. C.



Towering above all other responsibilities the Christian has is that supreme responsibility he owes to Jehovah God. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength" is the "first and great commandment." (Mark 12:30.) Unto "one God, and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all" (Ephesians 4:6) Christians owe the allegiance of head, heart, and hands; yea, of life itself. Any devotion to other gods or lesser loyalty to Jehovah invites the jealousy and wrath of Him who will have no competitors. (Exodus 20:3.) "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." (Matthew 4:10.)

The Apostle John best expresses the nature of that affection we owe our God. "My

(see page 9)

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Responsibility As A Parent

Jesse Melton, Wilson, N. C.

What do I owe my children? This question should challenge the thinking of every Christian parent. For, indeed, we who are parents are debtors to our offspring. There are two realms, which we should consider relative to this matter. They are the physical and the spiritual. As a Christian, one is obligated to provide for the physical welfare of his children. Even the lower forms of animal life are led by instinct to do this. Occassionally we read of a distraught mother who places her child on a doorstep, rings the bell, and slips into the shadows until someone finds the baby and carries it inside. While we cannot approve this procedure, we never-the-less appreciate the fact that the mother was concerned for the physical welfare of her child. On the other hand, in many homes, there are children who are suffering from malnutrition, cold, and disease, whose parents are indifferent and unconcerned. The preaching of the cross, wherever accepted, will result in the eradication of such problems. The words of the beloved apostle should serve as warning and instruction to all, "But if any provide not for his own and specially for those of his own house he hath denied the faith and is worse than an infidel." (1 Tim. 5:8). In addition to this, it is the duty of Christian parents to provide for, and assist in, the mental development of their children. This can mean spiritual benefits as well as physical. Fortunate, indeed, are the children whose parents insist that their education consists, not only of knowledge of secular things, but a knowledge of God's word as well. One of the best ways to fulfill our obligation as parents in the realm of mental development for our children is to provide for them to attend a "Christian school". While we appreciate the public school system and acknowledge the good that it is doing we are disturbed over certain trends brought to our attention in recent years. There is insurmountable evidence of a materialistic--atheistic approach to various subjects by many teachers in the public school system, especially among professors in the schools of higher learning. Let us thank God for "our schools" which provide, not only classes in Bible but a Christian environment for our children as well. Only eternity can reveal the good that has been accomplished by these schools and by Christians who cared enough to provide for a "Christian education" for their children. As we think of the Christian's responsibility to his children relative to the spiritual realm, we are impressed with the fact that to succeed here is to succeed in the physical realm also. Solomon said, "...fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man." Eccl. 12:13. When we "fear God and keep His commandments" we will "bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Eph. 6:4. Our youth are crying for leadership today. It is time that we awaken to the fact that parental responsibility does not end with a slap on the wrist and the warning, "Don't do that!" Every Christian parent should realize that unless they guide their children in wholesome activities the children will find a leader, who in all probability, will guide them into things which are not wholesome. We owe it to our children to be their leaders! We must provide for their moments of leisure; We must prove ourselves worthy examples in worship and in our relationship with others. We must guide their young hands and minds to accomplish that which is right.

Responsibility As A Soul Winner

Ray D. Fullerton, Goldsboro, N. C.

A perfect pattern for soul winning is that of Andrew in John 1:40-42 a. "One of the two that heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He findeth first his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah (which is, being interpreted, Christ). He brought him unto Jesus."

We may discuss personal evangelism and advocate it and study about it. But unless we DO it, we shall never win souls for Christ. Andrew was a soul winner; he DID personal work: "He findeth first his own brother Simon." His recognition of a dire need moved him just as it must move us. Mass evangelism is needed. But men are won to Christ by the personal touch one by one. And in our day when is heard the babel of voices, "Lo, here," and, "Lo, there," there is still a deep need for soul winners who will go first and find someone who needs the Savior. Furthermore, it is interesting to note that Andrew was far more concerned with the winning of souls than he was with methods and techniques and aids.

Andrew met the qualifications of a soul winner. Deep-seated desire to serve led his service to be lifted far above the mere level of duty. No one assigned the call to him or asked him to make the contact. His love and concern for the lost moved him to action. He was converted to Christ, "We have found the Messiah."

Perhaps Andrew did not maintain a formal "prospect list," but he had a prospect list of some sort: "his own brother Simon." Who are our prospects? Strangers; friends; neighbors; co-workers; tradesmen; relatives; mates of members. In a recent Campaign for Christ in Edinburgh, Scotland, workers there witnessed avowed atheists who came every Sunday to the world-famous Mound to convert anyone who would listen to their Godless atheism--strangers or friends, the "great and the small." Here was dedication in action; how does our dedication compare to that of men who spend their spare time teaching a hopeless and helpless doctrine such as this to anyone who will listen, using the personal contact, tracts, debates, street preaching--any technique they can?

The Christian's responsibility as a soul winner (every one is a missionary for Christ or against him) we must think in terms of prospects. The soul winner can well afford to cultivate "redemptive friendships," entire families with whom he and his family may choose to associate in the hope of redeeming their souls for Christ as a result of the friendship.

According to the story, Andrew knew well his objective: it was not to gossip, to waste time talking about the weather, the crops or politics, "Wandering about from house to house...speaking things which they ought not to," 1 Timothy 5:13. We may change our sphere of activity in soul winning, but not our mission. The soul winner must carry the sacred out into the street to tell men of the Messiah, to bring them to the Christ.

Andrew's technique was simple: "And saith unto him, We have found the Messiah." He was truly the friend of the bridegroom. He was about his business, seeking to win a soul to the Lord, to minister to the holy relationships between bridegroom and bride. We often frighten the bride away by our abrupt manner. We begin with differences rather than points on which we agree; we argue; we judge; we condemn, we are harsh; we may love but our love doesn't show through.

Furthermore, emphasis in this conversion was on the Savior. "We have found the Messiah." Conversion cannot be reduced to mere conformity with a legalistic system. It is legal, there are laws, and there is system (Romans 3:27; Romans 8:2; Matthew 7:21-23, etc.). But Christ is the heart of the gospel and men must be won to him as both the devine Son of God and the authoritative Lord of lords and King of kings. Conversion to Christ leads men to his church, his laws, his will. But conversion to baptism or a congregation or a preacher cannot be equated with conversion to Christ.

What were the results? "He brought him unto Jesus."

The responsible soul winner will not dwell on the failures. He knows that while the book of Acts is well known as "The Book of Conversions," it also records many non-conversions, too. Our responsibility is to sow the seed. "I planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase", 1 Corinthians 3:6. We may win men who learned the truth from someone else; we must be willing to continue imparting truth and seeking to motivate others to Christ, knowing that it may be sometime before the harvest will come.

But Christ lays down a perfect plan for winning souls. "Ye shall be my witnesses (soul winners) both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth," Acts 1:8. This plan worked in the first century and it will work today. Concern must be expressed for those at home, those nearby, those in more distant areas, and those in the uttermost part of the earth—"every creature in all the world."

Brother Jimmie Lovell has for a long time said, "No man has the right to hear the gospel twice before every man hears it once." We cannot be satisfied with preaching the gospel at home; be soul winners at home and abroad, by one method or another. In the first century they went everywhere preaching the word, Acts 8:4. They taught publicly and from house to house; in the synagogues and in the marketplaces; in prisons and in Ceasar's household. And they spanned the whole world with the gospel of Christ before Paul died, Colossians 1:23; Romans 10:18.

In more recent months and years, many Christians have been privileged to seek the lost in intensive Campaigns for Christ at home and abroad. Last year the size of the church in Glasgow, Scotland, was doubled in such an effort. This year the church actually came into being in Wellington, New Zealand, as a result of about thirty-five soul winners going there and working intensively for about three weeks. Campaigns were conducted in Edinburgh, Scotland, and in London, England (where two were conducted). The success of these efforts is a matter of record.

Intensive campaigns are conducted over a brief period of time by a large group of highly qualified and dedicated workers who go on the field fully equipped to contact, teach, baptize and establish new converts. They work house-to-house among strangers, in public parks and other places, they seek to win those whom they may meet in the process of travel on local busses, workers in their hotels, etc. While forty or fifty workers may be involved in the actual campaign, thousands are involved in the overall effort. We can participate in soul winning efforts like this just as we can in any other mission work. We can go ourselves if we meet the qualifications. We may encourage others to go who are known to us as dedicated soul winners. We may give financial assistance to those who go. We can encourage churches and other Christians to support such soul-winning Campaigns.

But somehow, we MUST be soul winners for Christ.

Responsibility As A Citizen

Joseph R. Costilow,
Rocky Mount, N. C.

The Christian is a citizen oweing allegience to two different governments. Having been "delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of his dear Son: (Col. 1: 13), he is subject to a spiritual government. But this spiritual government requires him to be obedient also to a temporal government by saying, "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers..." (Rom. 13:0), and, "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: ..." (1 Pet. 2:13).

Because the law of these two governments is not always compatible the Christian finds himself in a quandary. In his desire to be completely submissive to his Savior and King, he has been prone to shun participation in political affairs, even to the extent that he denies his responsibility in this realm.

It is true that politics and world affairs belong primarily to politicians; that salvation and ultimate affairs of the soul belong to the church. But this cannot mean that the Christian has no responsibility at all in political affairs. If a Christian is faced with movements and tendencies that negate Christ, that seek to destroy Him and his influence, he cannot sit back and do nothing: he must react. He cannot say; it is none of my business, Christ will take care of himself! Since today's world is full of such tendencies and movements--and since nothing less than his faith is at stake--the true Christian will realize and accept his responsibility in the political realm as in all others.

With reference to obedience to the law of the land there is little difficulty in determining the demands made upon the Christian. He is to be submissively obedient to such law, (Rom. 13:1-7 and 1 Pet. 2:13-16), unless it clearly violates the law of God. In which case he must first be obedient to the law of God regardless of the consequences. (Cf. Est. 3:1-11; Dan. 1: 5-15; 3:8-12; Acts 4:18-19; 5:28-29). But it isn't so simple for the Christian to see his responsibility in politics and local community affairs. In the absence of clearcut, specific commands the tendency has been to withdraw completely or, at the most, to have very little to do with participation in either. Yet this does not resolve the problem for there are scriptures which do apply.

The Holy Spirit commands that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for kings and those in authority, to the end that the Christian might live a quiet and peacable life. (1 Tim. 2:1-2). But is it not a fact that the supplicant must use every means at his command to bring about the answer to his prayer? Would one pray that a loved one be restored to health and never consult a physician? Would one pray to be cured of a disease and not take the medicine prescribed to effect the cure? Will the burning house be extinguished by prayer without the application of water? So the command to pray for authorities includes the inherent command to use every providential means to install those in positions of authority who will not hinder the realization of the prayer.

The right of franchise, a voice in government, is a God-given privilege. Jesus commissioned his followers to make his gospel known world-wide. (Mark 15:15-16; Matt. 28:19-20). Only in nations with governments allowing freedom of speech, freedom of press, and freedom of religion can this great commission be carried out.

Knowing this, God providentially directed man's intellect toward the formation of governments allowing these freedoms. But man has refused to protect God's gift and governments disallowing these freedoms have been the result.

Today the Christian sees one third of the world controlled by a totalitarian movement which forbids the spread of the gospel. He sees the tentacles of this Godless regime hungarily reaching out to encircle the rest of the world. He feels the weight of its influence in his own government and in its effect upon his daily life. Can he ignore all this? Can he deny that he has any responsibility towards maintaining a free government? Can he refuse to use his God-given right of franchise-or use it for his own selfish interests -- and be pleasing to God?

In these days far fewer votes than those held by Christians can decide issues of major importance in world events. Many Christians then contend that they have no responsibility to exercise those votes in the interest of freedom, honesty, integrity and justice? May they, through failure to exercise a providential privilege, negate the purpose of God, destroy the influence of his Son, and make it impossible for millions to hear his message of life? Not any more so than that disease should go away by prayer without being combatted or that the burning house should be extinguished by prayer without the use of an extinguisher.

But what of local community affairs? In every city, hamlet, and village minority groups are formulating policies, rules and standards which affect the lives of Christians and non-christian alike. Through civic and fraternal organizations, the various news media, and by every means at their disposal they are inculcating their ideas, beliefs, and principles upon all. Heretofore Christians have tended to shun such groups. No matter that many of their ideas and principles were diametrically opposed to the will of God, they have segregated themselves from participation in their activities. Usually justifying such withdrawal with the premise, howbeit false, that such scripture as "...be not conformed to this world," (Rom. 12:2), and similar passages apply to this particular situation. But where does the Christian's responsibility in such matters lie?

Jesus said his followers are the "salt of the earth," (Matt. 5:13), and they "are the light of the world," (Matt. 5:14). Salt preserves; light dispels darkness. But where are those agents to react? In the worship service? In the Bible class? In the company of other Christians? Salt saves nothing if it remains in the box. The light under a bushel has no effect upon outer darkness. So wherever policies and principles detrimental to the cause of Christ and the spiritual welfare of man are being formulated, there must the influence of the Christian be felt! Either by having a hand in formulating that which is good, or actively opposing the bad. The only way the Christian can be instrumental in illuminating the world is to let the world know he exists, what he believes, and where he stands.

Too long have Christians neglected their responsibility as citizens in the world. Too long have they, by their withdrawal, been guilty of monasticism as surely as if a resident of an actual monastery.

But the true Christian lives at the heart of the issues of our day. He hates living at the periphery of life. He seeks the facts. He is wary of propaganda and falsehood. He sifts the hearsay, sentimentalism, and prejudice to get at the truth. He is not content with the comfort of being swept with the tide but faces the opposing currents and fights ignorance, stupidity, superficiality and the downward trend, as did his Master and King. In short, the true Christian, as a citizen in the world, accepts his responsibility in this realm, with its duties, challenges and excitements, realizing that these are great days and that what is happening in them is not only historic but eternal as well.

Responsibility To Himself

Donald R. Beggs, Jacksonville, N. C.

The Christian must ever be aware of the various misgivings of an individual concerning his labors within the realm of servitude. Mental and physical preparedness to meet the challenges which daily confront the Christian may very well be the deciding factor in victory or defeat, success or failure. The Lord demands self-denial of all who would follow him. "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." (Luke 9:23) This may easily be misconstrued to dictate ascetic qualities of physical hardship self-imposed through a form of "martyr complex" which thrives on pain and discomfort for no apparent reason. The Lord did not indicate his desire for a "suicide pact" or any other form of self-destruction when he said, "... and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." (Matthew 10:39b) In definite contrast, the yoke is easy and the burden is light upon the Christian who fully realizes his responsibilities upon the earth, and discovers great potential through analysis of his own capabilities and limitations. Paul said, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." (Romans 8:18) In 2 Corinthians 11:23-33 the apostle lists some of the hardships he endured as a servant of the Lord and his sufferings in no way could be described as a perverted form of self-gratification. His attitude was expressed when he asked, "Have I committed an offence in abasing myself that YE might be exalted because I have preached to you the gospel of God freely?" (2 Cor. 11:7) Self-exaltation as the underlying incentive for false piety and pseudo-humality is not at all what the Lord prescribed when he said, "For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." (Luke 14:11).

Taking up the cross involves much more than simply going through the motions. Simon of Cyrene was compelled to carry the cross of Jesus, (Matthew 27:32) but there is no physical coercion to carry the cross today. The coercive power in existence now is not the sword or spear, but love which is truly without dissimulation. This kind of love brings a Christian to choose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of all the earth with respect to the reward for faithful service.

The Christian's responsibilities to himself are unequivocally based upon the needs of others. What has been appropriately called the "J-O-Y" formula would well be applied. J-esus, O-thers, Yourself in that order makes it clear enough that a self-regard is necessary to attain and maintain a state of mental and physical preparedness to meet the needs of others and to develope the Christ-like image in ourselves.

Often the Christian becomes overly conscious of himself and loses sight of the real reason for self-discipline, self-sacrifice, and self-denial. Self concern which hinges on the relationship of a Christian to God and fellowman should be of greater relative importance when examined carefully to define its true purpose.

A Christian who is unable to present a Christ-like image with a cigarette in his mouth is no doubt in addition handicapped physically with a cough, shortness of breath or other impediment as a result of smoking. The Christian owes it to himself, to others, and to God, to present his body a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is his reasonable service. (Romans 12:1) With regard to smoking it has been said that it is impossible for a man to overcome the devil who stalks about as a roaring lion until he is first capable of defeating a Camel! Perhaps this is an exaggeration but it serves well to emphasize the meaning of discipline, sacrifice and denial of self which is required of a follower of Christ. Deterioration of the human body occurs soon enough by natural processes of age without adding harmful habits to speed it along. The cowardly soldier who shoots off his own toe to escape his responsibilities in the face of impending battle is no more contemptible than the man who deliberately brings undue suffering upon himself and shirks his duties by blaming God for his poor health and uses his diseased body as an excuse for failure to serve.

Even though physical deficiency heavily distorts the quality and quantity of service which a Christian may perform, this should not outweigh the more disastrous effects and consequences of spiritual deficiency. Jesus emphasized the need for realizing infinite spiritual values when he asked, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26) "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matthew 10:28) "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?" (Matthew 6:25) There is little danger of overemphasizing spiritual values, but rather for fear of fanaticism the so-called "modern - variety" Christian will more often than not yield to social and political pressures in order to conform with current trends and vogue. The greatest responsibility a Christian can ever realize with regard to himself is that of completely severing from his soul the lusts of the flesh by a proper evaluation of spiritual well-being in spite of an abundance of physical temptations.

Responsibility To God (cont'd)

little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue" (alone--or just stop there-C. E. M.) "but in deed and in truth" (I John 3:18) What a tremendous responsibility for us all! Even as God's love expresses itself in action (consider the lilies of the field--Matthew 7:28-30, or the Lilly of the Valley--John 3:16), so shall our love to God IF "we love him because he first loved us." Inasmuch as this love is directed by truth (God's word is truth--John 17:17) then, applying ourselves to KNOW the truth and to DO it becomes the real test of our love to God.

Practical application of these principles is seen when one beholds and exalts the beauty of life and God's world of nature; when one holds human life sacred and the soul precious; when one lovingly hears and obeys the gospel of Christ, even over the protest of unbelievers; when frequent worship is a joy and glad anticipation; when a regular wage earner generously budgets his Lord's day giving weeks ahead and adheres closely thereto; when one refuses to tolerate lying, profanity, vulgarity, drunkedness, immorality, etc. in circumstances over which he has control; when one casts his ballot with the view to upholding godliness and/or destroying wickedness; when one's time is fully characterized by worthwhile pursuits; when the subjects of God, his truth, and his church are eagerly discussed and upheld; when one loves and forgives his brother; when kindness, patience, sympathy, humility, penitence, and prayer attend a life of serving God with reverence and godly fear.

While the love of which Jesus speaks thus expresses itself, Christians are fulfilling their responsibility to put first things first (Matthew 6:33), and our hope of heaven becomes more precious as we keep ourselves in the love of God. In that happy realization of those rewards attending the exercise of our responsibility to Jehovah, Christians come finally to see what they have always believed; namely, "that all things work together for good to them that love God."

Responsibility To The Local Congregation

Virgil L. Hale, Whiteville, N. C.

Far too many times the work in the local congregation is being shouldered by the faithful few rather than each member doing his part. Many seem to indicate by their actions that they believe we are going to be judged collectively as a congregation rather than individually. Like a hobo, they are trying to "ride through" on what someone else is doing.

Throughout God's word we have warning after warning to show us that we shall stand or fall on our own actions and not the actions of another. Paul wrote, "For every man shall bear his own burden." (Gal. 6:50. Again we read, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." (2 Cor. 5:10). In Romans chapter 14 we read, "...for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ." (verse 10). And, again, "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." (verse 12). There are other verses that we could use, but these should suffice to prove that we shall be judged as individuals.

Our responsibility as individuals cannot be shifted to another. Man has tried to do this from the beginning of time. Adam tried to shift his responsibility to Eve and Eve tried to shift her responsibility to the devil. King Saul tried to shift his responsibility to the people. Pilate tried to wash his hands and in so doing shift the responsibility of Christ's blood to the Jews. However, we should learn from each of these the utter futility of such efforts.

It is also impossible to shirk our responsibility and escape the wrath of God. Jesus makes this very clear in Matthew chapter 25. The man with one talent was condemned, not because he failed to do as much as the man with five talents, but because he shirked the responsibility that was his. Each of us must use the ability which God has given us, or, like this man, we will stand condemned. Others cannot do enough for us to get by. Peter points out that the righteous will "scarcely be saved." (1 Pet. 4:18). If the righteous just barely get by, certainly we cannot expect to borrow any of their "oil." (Matthew 25:1-12). Jesus said, "I must work ..." (Jno. 9:4). Paul admonished us, "...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." (Phil. 2:12).

As a member of the local congregation we have the responsibility of setting a good example before the world. Truly we are "known and read of all men." (2 Cor. 3:2). Our life is like an open book. We can be centripetal force, or we are centrifugal force. We either draw people to Christ, or we push them further away. "None of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." (Rom. '4:7). This also includes our responsibility to one another. Each of us needs help and encouragement, from time to time, as we live the Christian life.

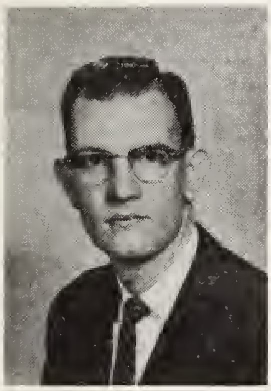
As a member of the local congregation we have certain responsibilities to the preacher. Nothing can ruin a sermon more than ungodly living in the congregation. Another thing that will ruin preaching are members who apologize for the truth.

We have the responsibility of attending every service of the church that we possibly can. How anyone can read Hebrews 10:25-31 without getting the message is beyond my comprehension.

The last point that we shall consider at this time is the subject of giving. We need to realize as did David, "...for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee." (1 Chron. 29:14).

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny S. Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.



Under the direction of John Banister a group of brethren is currently mounting a drive to raise some $750,000 for capital improvements at the Tipton Home for Children at Tipton, Okla. This work, which is under the oversight of the elders of the Tipton church, is in its 40th. year. The number of children being cared for at Tipton, or under the supervision of the Tipton Home, is approaching the 300 mark. In a recent 30 day period 24 children were presented to the Tipton Home for care.

The Nhowe Mission Program is centered on a 1900 acre tract of land 85 miles east of Salisbury, the capital city of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. At Nhowe Mission since the early 1940's, Christians have taught and preached and assisted the sick and poor. Today Christians are training over 2,000 children through 11 native schools in which the Bible is a daily subject; 26 Africans are enrolled in a concentrated study designed to train them to be evangelists; a well-staffed medical clinic is now in operation with several hundred being served each month. There are 34 congregations in the Nhowe mission area, five of which have been established this year.

J. W. Brents, 79, veteran gospel preacher, passed away at 3 p.m. on October 20 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Bob Harp of Los Angeles, Calif. plans to leave for mission work in the South Pacific in January, 1964. The South Pacific islands, with a population of 4 million, have no known churches of Christ. The nearest congregations are in New Zealand, several hundred miles away.

A second evangelistic campaign will be conducted in Glasgow, Scotland in August of 1964, two years from the time of the first campaign in which 25 were baptized. Fred B. Walker will preach in this series of meetings.

On November 17 a Bible Chair operated by members of the church of Christ had its official opening at the Italian University of Milano. The direction of the Chair, the first of its kind in Europe, will be taken by the elders of the Edgemere congregation in Wichita Falls, Texas.

The Herald of Truth radio and television program has the potential of reaching every American city of 5,000 people or more. Added to this is the opportunity to teach 650 million English speaking people over 128 English language foreign stations. $1,932,000 is needed to reach this goal.

The first issue of a new Christian publication, PERSONAL EVANGELISM, makes its appearance this month. Its purpose, according to its editors, is "to share with others methods and experiences of Christian personal workers in an effort to inspire and aid every individual to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ." Clayton Pepper and Fred Walker are Editor and Associate Editor respectively.

In Seoul, Korea 200 students are enrolled in a Junior High School operated by members of the church of Christ in which the Bible is taught to each student daily. The medical clinic there renders service to the sick who come from all parts of the city. There is daily distribution of food and clothing to the needy. For approximately a year brethren in the Seoul area have operated a printing press producing tracts, newsletters and a religious magazine. O. P. Baird is the minister of the Hyo Chang Dong church in Seoul.

A second congregation is planned for Paris, France, a city of 8 1/2 million. The present congregation meets in the northern section of the city. The new work is planned for the south side. Donald Daugherty is helping to establish the new congregation.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

BILL SHELTON, N. C. News Editor
P. O. Box 5424, Raleigh, N. C.

TOM BOLICK, S. C. News Editor
50 Lancaster Street, Chester, S. C.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS, Bill Shelton, Reporting: With the close of the Fall season fast approaching, we are able to see some wonderful progress in the Lord's work. Many meetings have been held and some are now in progress. Jesse Melton, preacher at Wilson, is presently conducting a meeting at Whiteville. T. Lloyd Cannon of Houston, Texas is in a week's effort at Goldsboro and Chester Hunnicutt of Cherokee reports two baptisms, six restorations and one identification in his meeting at Bonnie Doone in Fayetteville.

Jesse Melton reports the following attendance figures for Sunday morning services in that city: July--16; August--25; September--28; October--32. The average contribution for September was $44.45 and for October $44.72. He also reports class-room furniture has been built for all the classrooms and that the nursery of the new building has been furnished. Four Sunday morning classes and three Wednesday evening classes have been organized in that congregation. Jimmy Dorris of Nashville, Tenn. conducted a meeting in Wilson during September and attendance for the meeting averaged slightly above 30. One of the high-lights of the meeting was a singing at which 132 were in attendance.

Ralph Reaves of Nashville, Tenn. held a meeting in Henderson during October. Attendance averaged above 30. The church in Henderson is presently meeting at the Service Club Center about one mile South of the Henderson city limits on Business Route 1. The brethren have purchased a lot for a future building. The elders of the Raleigh congregation are very interested in contacting a man to work full time in Henderson. Anyone interested and qualified for this work may obtain further information by writing: Elders, church of Christ, Box 5424, Raleigh, N. C.

I have been encouraged by the increase in the number of congregations that have submitted reports. Let's keep up the good work until every congregation submits a report.

ABERDEEN

E.C. LOCKERMAN, Reporting: Two of our greatest needs that we have been working for are being fulfilled the first of January 1964 - our building will be paid off and we will have a located preacher. We rejoice and are most grateful for these two special blessings.

Ray D. Winn, now of Madison, Tenn., will arrive the first of the year to work with the congregation. We welcome bro. Winn and his family to Aberdeen and N. C. We are confident that his work for the Lord will begin a new era in the growth of the Kingdom in this area.

We are also very happy that the Riverside church of Christ in Columbia, Tenn. will hold another Gospel Meeting for us beginning June 23. The results of the meeting they held for us last July are very gratifying. We have had visitors and our own group shows greater unity and zeal. Our attendance and contributions both have held up nicely with increases.

MOCKSVILLE

CARMEN WALKER, Reporting: Several changes have taken place at North Main Street. Our former minister, Willard Conchin, and family, have moved to Huntsville, Alabama, where he and Mrs. Conchin are teaching in Madison Academy, a Christian school. In the last month we have been very fortunate in having J. B.

Whitaker come to be with us. He also has brought along a new wife as of October 19, 1963, the former Carol Richardson of Rockingham, N. C. Bro. Whitaker was the minister at the Rockingham congregation before moving to Mocksville.

Several years ago Bro. Whitaker was the Minister at Jericho church of Christ in this area, so we are very lucky in that he is already widely known and loved throughout our area by many. We feel this will be a definite advantage in getting a new work underway.

During the interval of Mr. Conchin's leaving and Mr. Whitaker's arrival several of our brethren did a very outstanding job of bringing us many fine lessons.

You can hear Bro. Whitaker each Sunday morning at 8:00 on WSDC, our local station, and we invite you to listen each time you have an opportunity. Please stay tuned after his lesson for 15 minutes of singing sponsored by the Jericho church of Christ.

Our services on Sunday evening now begin at 6:30 with Wednesday evening services still being held at 7:30. Please remember these time changes and when you are in our area come by and worship with us. Regular Sunday morning services are Sunday School at 10:00 and worship at 11:00. We invite everyone to come and be with us at any or all of our services any time.

KINSTON

NOYLES E. SEWELL, Reporting: Our booth in Lenoir County Fair was considered very successful. We centered our exhibit around a darkened projection area where Jule Miller filmstrip number one was being continuously shown. An automatic remote control device advanced the film every 20 seconds. This was accompanied by a 90 second spot on a tape recording which was continuously repeated with 20 second breaks between spots. The spots explained the filmstrips, mentioned briefly the others in the series and suggested that the films were available for private home showings. Interested parties were asked to leave their names and addresses in a box conveniently located. Another attention getting part of our booth was a bright red telephone with sign saying: "Lift the phone and hear God's word answer your most important question." When the phone was lifted a series of scriptures were heard beginning with Acts 16:30-31 and including Acts 3:19, 2:38, 22:16, Jn. 3:5 and Mark 16:16.

On the main panel of our display, a large open Bible was placed on a shelf with a spot-light above focused on it. A model of the building was shown with address and hours of service, samples of Bible Correspondence Course were displayed, the Herald of Truth was advertised along with our daily 30 minute local program. We would encourage sister congregations in the Carolinas to try a booth in your local county Fair as a means of advertising the church and making contacts for teaching. During the week following the Fair we were engaged in a gospel meeting here with C. W. Bradley preaching. There was one baptism and one restoration during the meeting and one baptism on the Sunday following the meeting. We have witnessed a total of 15 additions thus far in '63. Our goal is still 20 baptisms for the year.

We exceeded our B. S. goal for Oct. 6 with 112 present and our October B. S. average is over 100. Thirty one families here now receive the Gospel Advocate under the congregational subscription plan. Since October report, another man was baptized on Nov. 6.

STATESVILLE, Broad Street

HAROLD L. SCOTT, Reporting: Four responded to the invitation during our gospel meeting in October with Bro. C. R. Franks preaching. Two were restored, two baptized. One was restored just prior to the meeting, and one has been baptized in November. Men of the congregation are conducting four cottage classes per week. The women have begun to meet monthly for a work day and are caring for the food and clothing storage closet. Four boxes of winter clothing was mailed this month to the mission in Korea where Bro. O. P.

Baird is now working. We began meeting in our new classrooms on Oct. 6.

STATESVILLE, Abilene

HAROLD L. SCOTT, Reporting: Bro. Scott continues to preach on Sunday mornings for the congregation here at the 9 A.M. hour, and to conduct a mid-week class for adults at our Thursday night Bible Study. The congregation here would appreciate hearing from any preacher who might be interested in locating with them. We have begun to send $150 per month to the congregation in Taylorsville, N. C.

WILMINGTON

HOWARD WINTERS, Reporting: At long last, we have a radio program over one of the local stations. We have been working toward this all year, but suitable time has not been available-or at least not available to the church. But beginning on November 10, at 8:45 A.M., the first program was heard over WHSL. On this program we plan to preach the gospel, offer free copies of the sermon, advertise our Bible correspondence course, offer our service for home studies.

CHARLOTTE, Plaza

PAUL KIDWELL, Reporting: Our work is progressing. The summer months brought many uncertainties to us with several fine families moving away. Among those who left us was Hoyle Burton, our reporter to the Messenger. Some of the slack has been taken up by the addition of families moving into our area.

Special efforts are being put forth to improve and expand our work. Visitation meetings every two weeks afford us an opportunity to check results and encourage greater participation in this phase of our work.

We have adopted a standard Bible School material. A series of teacher training meetings is planned for the near future. Special classes are taught each Tuesday evening by your reporter. Some of the topics discussed are: The Christian and Recreation, The Christian and Racial Tension, The Christian and Hobbyism, and The Christian and Home Problems.

HIGH POINT

FRANK MILTON, Reporting: During the summer we had two baptisms, and several placed membership. A gospel meeting was just concluded with Carl Lancaster doing the preaching. Everyone is still talking about the good lessons presented, and attendance was good throughout the meeting. We had about 48 non-members to attend. Printed letter invitations were sent to friends and neighbors, and phone calls were followed up.

Among many plans and goals we are in the process of finding land for a new building. The present building was not ideally constructed for worship, and we have outgrown both it and the parking lot.

Television station WGHP went on the air Oct. 1 and began telecasting the Herald of Truth the first Sunday at 10:00 A.M.

WHITEVILLE

VIRGIL L. HALE, Reporting: September was the best month that this congregation has ever experienced, attendance wise. On Sept. 8, we had a record attendance of 108, and we averaged 95 for the Sunday morning services throughout the month. This was 32 more per week than we averaged last year.

It was my privilege during the month of October to be in a meeting with the congregation in Wilmington, N.C. The Fanning Heights congregation in Huntsville, Ala. sent me there for that effort which resulted in one baptism.

Lord willing, bro. Jesse Melton from Wilson, N.C. will be here for a meeting Nov. 18. - 24th.

Thus far this year, we have had 9 baptisms and 5 restorations here in Whiteville.

LEXINGTON

WALTER E. NEAL, Reporting: Two of the members of this congregation bought some good used seats to go into our auditorium.

This congregation gives more to the church treasury than any I have worked with. If we could do as well in our attendance and Spirit, it would be wonderful. Our needs still remain great. The number one need is more members, number two more money with which to build, and last but not least, more personal workers. My wife and I are using the "VISUALIZED BIBLE STUDY SERIES" by Jule Miller. This method is slow, but it is picking up momentum.

By the time you read this, we hope to have the building painted inside, and we hope to be engaged in our second series of Gospel meetings for this year, with a different speaker for all ten services.

TRYON

KENNETH WILLIS, Reporting: Our singing school was conducted Nov. 4-9 with Waymon Love of Spindale, N.C. doing an excellent job as director. To our knowledge, this was the first such school for this congregation. It was attended with much interest.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: The month of October must have been an uneventful month for most brethren. Let me encourage each church to write each month even if it be only a brief report.

From the Bulletins: The Park Street congregation in Columbia, ablely served by Ralph Seiders, is continuing to work on plans to construct an educational annex to their present church building. On November third, the colored brethren of the Heidt and Santee congregation, went over after services on Sunday night to baptize a former Methodist minister from South Africa, who is studying at Benedict College.

The Durant Avenue church in North Charleston is still without a preacher at the time of this writing. The work still makes notable gains, however, even without a preacher. In the first half of November, five placed membership, one was restored, and three were baptized.

The Aiken church reports two baptisms and two who placed membership since their last report. A record of 116 was set on Sunday night, October 27.

The church in Gaffney, only six months old, has made remarkable gains in their labors. Brother Marvin Bryant, assisted by brother Bill King, a local dentist, has done great personal work that has resulted in the conversion of approximately 20 people. Three of these formerly served as denominational preachers in or near Gaffney. Brother Rex Turner, President of Alabama Christian College, has held two abbrev ated meetings with the church there. These meetings are held on Saturday night and all services on Sunday.

Brother Richard Harp, minister of the Lancaster church, reports that the old home in which they have been meeting for a year, has been torn down and construction of their new building is not too far away. Bond sales are doing quite well and financial interest from supporting congregations has been very encouraging. The church will meet in the County Health Center until their new building is completed.

WEST COLUMBIA

W. G. GANTT, Reporting: The West Columbia church continues to make progress. For the past two months the work has been very encouraging. Two new records have been set in attendance for the Lord's day morning and evening worship, 176, 127. Our new goals are 185,

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CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

135, and 95 for our mid-week Bible study. These new goals we expect to reach this coming week. We also have an average for the past month of 26 for our Tuesday morning "Ladies Bible Class."

For the past few weeks we have had two ladies to respond to the Lord's invitation to be baptized, and four wayward members to be restored. As of January 1, 1964, this congregation will be self supporting. At the present, the Madison church is sending $50.00 per month to the work. Our present contribution is averaging $224.33. This is $6.33 above our proposed budget.

GREENVILLE, Edgewood

ERNEST THIGPEN, Reporting: We enjoyed a very fine meeting last month. In an excellent manner, brother Rhoden Presnell of Anderson, S. C. presented the gospel of Christ using flannelgraph charts in connection with each sermon. The attendance and interest were much better than usual. The last Sunday of the meeting there were 178 present for the morning service and 171 for the night service. There were eight responses during the meeting, four of which came forward to obey the gospel. Prior to our meeting, three placed membership and one was restored.

CHESTER

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: From November 3rd through the 8th, we were blessed with one of our best gospel meetings. Bro. Marvin Bryant of Gaffney brought powerful lessons that left sinner and saint alike with the simplicity of New Testament Christianity. This meeting produced the largest attendance of a meeting since I began my work here. Recently a young couple, baptized about two years ago, returned to Chester to make this their permanent home. Another has come to us from the Lancaster congregation.

ROCK HILL

GRADY SLATTON, Reporting: David Pharr, a native of North Wilkesboro, now preaching at Gallipolis, Ohio, will begin work with us on January 1st. We recently began a three column four inch short sermon placement in the local newspaper once weekly which will continue for a minimum of seven months. We had one baptism recently.

DUNCAN

ROY BURGES, Reporting: There were six responses to the Lord's invitation in our meeting with the Duncan congregation which closed last week. One was baptized and five restored. Two responded Wed.

GREENVILLE, Augusta Road

CARL LANCASTER, Reporting: Frank Milton of High Point, N. C. did the preaching in a Gospel meeting here in October. He did his work well but there were no immediate visible results. October's averages were as follows: Bible Study 79; Morning Worship 98; Evening Worship 70; Midweek Classes 57; Contribution $137.07. November 10th attendance was the largest it has been since the exodus of the Air Force with 118 present. Two Christian families recently moved into our area. This is a great encouragement.

carolina CHRISTIAN

"THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST SALUTE YOU"

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JANUARY, 1964 VOLUME 6, NUMBER 1

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C.

A total of about 75 people gathered for the first annual meeting of Carolina Christian Publications, Inc. held last November 22. Not all were able to stay for both afternoon and evening sessions. Jim Bill McInteer, guest speaker, complimented the Carolinas saying, "This is the largest gathering for this purpose I have ever seen."

The directors announced four important decisions which should be presented here.

1. Beginning with this issue (Jan. 1, 1964) this publication shall be known as Carolina Christian instead of Carolina Messenger of Truth.
2. Special themes are planned for each of the 12 issues of 1964.
3. The book and literature business was to be entered immediately. This shall be known as the Book Store Division of Carolina Christian Publications, Inc. All profits will be used to subsidize the paper. We are already set up to handle your orders so please remember us the next time you need to order. We believe we can supply anything you may need.
4. We will supply your printing needs. Because of the corporation's unique position, we will be able to fill your needs for letterheads, circulars, calling cards, etc. at a reasonable price. The work will be finest quality. As Johnny Sewell puts it "We can give you first quality work, because we don't do the work." Any funds derived from this source will be used for the paper, also.

Three recognition awards were presented at our first annual meeting. A committee, headed by Jay Smith, Office Manager of the 20th Century Christian in Nashville, Tennessee, selected the best article. C. W. Bradley's article, "The Christian Home: It Just Doesn't Happen," was awarded first place. Second place went to Carl Lancaster's article, "The Christian Home: Each Does His Part."

Johnny Sewell received the award for the most outstanding contribution in 1963 while Burl Curtis was named for making the greatest contribution through the years.

The fine fellowship, the attractive displayes, the outstanding speech by brother McInteer, the good food with beautiful and pleasant surroundings, and the wonderful exchange of ideas made this meeting one you would regret to miss.

20th Annual Carolina Lectureship

Bill G. Smith, Rockingham, N. C.

Remember that the next Carolina Lectureship will be held in Rockingham April 6-10.

We want to encourage:

--you to stay all week.

--you who are not preachers to attend also, both men and women. Take a week of your vacation and be with us.

--you to be sure and get your ticket for the dinner Thursday night at 6 P. M.

CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH
EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION STAFF:
Burl Curtis, Editor
C. N. Womack, Adv. Mgr.
Richard Eppley, Bus. Mgr.
Tom Bolick, S. C. News Editor
Bill Shelton, N. C. News Editor

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WHAT IS CHRISTIAN GROWTH?

Ernest Thigpen, Greenville, S. C.

Within every true child of God there is an inward spiritual being. It is a new creation in Christ brought about by one's obedience to the gospel plan of salvation. This spiritual being is properly called a Christian. He is such as those were whom Peter had in mind when he said, "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit... being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God which liveth and abideth forever." (I Peter 1:22, 23.) At birth this one who has entered the spiritual family of God is a babe in Christ. He has partaken of the divine nature, but he is still far away from spiritual maturity. In the beginning he is much more like his earthly father than he is in the image of his heavenly Father. To remain in this infantile condition would be sinful and tragic. Of course, to improve spiritually would be proper and commendable. It is certainly displeasing to God when there is an absence of Christian growth found in the lives of His children. Such is very clearly shown in the words of inspiration once penned to the Hebrew Christians. "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For everyone that useth milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness :for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Hebrews-5:12-14.)

God is genuinely concerned with his "newborn babes in Christ." Each one is to be taught to lay aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking, and as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that he may be able to grow thereby. (I Peter 2:1, 2.) The will of the heavenly Father for his children is for them to grow, develop, and mature in such a way that they shall be perfected, not remaining a babe, or as a child easily led astray, but being edified and entering into the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, grow unto a perfect man unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:12-14.) While Christ is our example and we are to grow up into him in all things, we are reminded of a statement made by him in the Sermon on the Mount. "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." (Matthew 5:48.)

Christian growth, or spiritual growth, is to the Christ something similar to what physical growth is to the human body. Parents make no mistake when they desire the physical development of their children. They are altogether wise when they manifest a sincere interest in the daily health of each child. Such is essential to the proper physical growth and maturity. Likewise, we recognize the wisdom of God in his desire for Christians to grow spiritually. The progress which one makes as he grows from a babe to a full-grown man in Christ is Christian growth. It is first feasting on the milk, or first principles of the word of God, and then advancing to the meat or higher principles of Christianity.

This growth which is so vital to the welfare of the soul of every Christian is a growth in grace, in knowledge, and in faith. The Apostle Peter teaches, "But grow in grace, and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (II Peter 3:18.) In writing to the Thessalonians, Paul speaks favorable concerning the ex-

(see page 6)

VALUE OF CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Carl Lancaster, Greenville, S. C.

A young couple is supremely happy. They have their first child--a six pounds and four ounces baby boy! This joy turns into concern, then alarm and finally dispair. For after a year, then 18 months and even two years this infant still weighs six pounds and four ounces and is no stronger or more alert than the day it was born. Ask this mother and father what is proper growth and development worth, and they will tell you that there are no words adequate to express just what it would be worth to them. When a child is born into God's family but after 12 months or five or 15 years he is still in the same condition as at birth, it is a far greater tragedy. The proper spiritual growth of a new creature in Christ is of far greater value than the proper physical and mental growth of an infant. From our limited view point, this side of eternity, perhaps we can never really properly assess the real value of Christian growth.

What is it worth to exchange a frustrated life of seeking "after the wind" for a life of contentment and abundant happiness? Jesus said concerning the things he taught, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." (John 13:17.) Peter gave Christian conduct as the avenue to a really enjoyable life. (I Peter 3:10-13.) Paul declared that there is available to the Christian a contentment that is beyond human comprehension. (Phil. 4:6,7.) Yet there are many church members who are very unhappy. Why is this so? We must conclude that they have not developed into the kind of creatures that God intended. They have never really developed the spirit and attitude of Jesus. Christian growth makes the difference.

What would it be worth to eliminate all strife and division from among God's people? Corinth was beset by division and many other grevious problems. Paul pointed out the reason for their difficulty. They simply had not developed beyond babes in Christ. (I Cor. 3:1-3.) How can two people or two million, who "walk by the same rule" and have the true spirit of Christ, be divided? Division is impossible among people who understand and follow after truth in a longsuffering, kind, humble, unselfish, forgiving spirit with a love that makes them willing to die for each other. (I Cor. 13:4-8; Eph. 4:32; I John 3:16.) Individual Christian growth then will eliminate that which has been a besetting sin of the Lord's people from Corinth to this day!

What would it be worth to have every need of the church met? Many are expressing concern over the increasing shortage of preachers and of scripturally qualified elders. Also, the number of willing workers is desparately small in comparison with the task of the church in this generation. Some have suggested more benefits, more security and such like will help eliminate the preacher shortage. Is that the real need? Proper spiritual development will increase consecration and greater dedication and will cause many to be willing to undergo hardships or make whatever sacrifices necessary to preach "the unsearchable riches of Christ." It will cause those who would watch for souls to spend the time and effort required to develop the qualities and skills essential to their tasks. It will increase immensely both the number of willing workers and the effectiveness of their work.

How much would it be worth to keep all those who obey the gospel? It is estimated that 50 percent of those who become Christians backslide. God did not intend for it to be this way. Christians are warned to

(see page 6)

THE LORD COMMANDS GROWTH

Rhoden Presnell, Charleston, S. C.

In the sermon on the mount, Jesus said, "You must therefore be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." For this accomplishment he taught that men must be "doers of the word" and "not hearers only." God desires to be our father, and as his children we must be clean in body and spirit. He has promised that upon certain conditions he will be our father. Paul urges, "Since we have these promises, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God." We must, therefore cleanse ourselves bodily and spiritually from every defilement, but it is too much to do in an instant. We cannot do all of this at the point of faith. Paul told Timothy to study, to exercise himself unto godliness, and continue in sound doctrine. Peter writes that by "his divine power (he) has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness," included in these things are "his precious and very great promises, that through these you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of passion, and become partakers of the divine nature." And thus he commands, "But grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." Before one can grow in grace and knowledge he must be in Christ. Jesus told a ruler of the Jews that one cannot be a partaker of the divine nature unless one is "born anew." Without this new birth one cannot see or enter the kingdom of God.

"Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrines of Christ and go on to maturity." (Hebrews 6:1.) Let us proceed from babes to full grown men in Christ. First we lay the foundation and then we build thereon. If one does not build on the foundation, he is either ignorant that the Lord commands Christian growth or unconcerned about reaching maturity.

Having commanded Christians to grow Peter says, "Like newborn babes, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow." With the same eagerness which prompts a newborn baby to turn again and again to its food, the newborn babe in Christ should turn with longings and yearnings to the spiritual food which alone can sustain spiritual life and cause one to grow as a Christian. We should become alarmed in the spiritual realm as in the physical if one does not develop. A new creature in Christ should desire the pure milk of the word. We can well imagine what would happen if we mixed poison with a baby's formula. It would hinder its growth, causing some physical defect that might even take the baby's life. This is why the Christian must have the "pure spiritual milk" without mixture of error. To mix a little error will defile and stop the proper development.

An infant is expected to reach an age where it will need meat or solid food. To receive the proper nourishment and develop as one should is of course dependent upon taking the prescribed diet. The Bible says that a child of God must "put away all malice and all guile and insincerity and all envy and all slander" if he expects to grow. From Paul's words to the Corinthians it is evident that he expected them to grow. "I brethren could not address you as spiritual... but as babes in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food." They were behaving like ordinary man and as long as there was jealousy and strife among them they could not take solid food. Before Christian growth is apparent in one's life, sin must be put away. Sin is to the Christian life like disease to the physical life. In the physical life one does not grow until the disease has been treated and cured.

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What Is Christian Growth (con't)

ceeding growth of their faith. (II Thess. 1:3.) Spiritual progress also embraces a growth in the qualities of the soul. For one is exhorted to give all diligence to add to his faith such characteristics as virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity. (II Peter 1:5-7.) When these things are in the Christian and abound, they are proof of spiritual growth. They also do their part to make one pleasing to the Lord, and at the same time give assurance of a real hope of heaven.

Another answer to our question is the gaining of spiritual strength. Paul taught the Christians in Ephesus to be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. This strength was to come from being in Christ and putting on the whole armour of God. (Ephesians 6:10-18.) Such strength was to deliver the Christian from a somewhat helpless condition to the powerful position of being capable of successfully fighting a defensive and offensive battle against all evil principalities, powers, and wickedness. We may better understand this part of Christian growth when we keep in mind that Christ is the vine and we are the branches, and that God's children are to be rooted and built up in him. (John 15; Col. 2:7.) Paul expressed it in this manner, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Phil. 4:13.) Also, Christ himself warned, "... without me ye can do nothing." (John 15: 5.) Progress as a Christian then may be defined as the building up of one's ability enabling him to overcome evil and acceptably serve and worship God. It is the putting off of the old man of sin and the putting on of the new man of righteousness which is renewed in knowledge after the image of God who created him. It is the yielding of the members of the body as servants to God, having fruit unto holiness, and in the end receiving everlasting life. It is more and more becoming dead indeed to sin and alive unto God through Jesus Christ.

So glorious in nature and essential to one's eternal salvation is the Father's will for everyone of his children to grow spiritually that all should give the utmost attention to understanding and meeting its requirements. God's word has been designed and written in such a way that by our humble submission to its teachings we shall grow spiritually each day and find ourselves advancing toward the crown of life. While the outward man is perishing, the inward man is being renewed day by day. As we reach spiritual maturity, no longer are childish characteristics to govern our words or deeds; they have been put away, and now as a mature child of God, we are to perfect holiness in the fear of God. Our only law is the law of Christ, a law of love. All who grow spiritually by meeting such requirements will someday find for themselves a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Being clothed with this new body, fashioned like unto Christ's glorious body, such shall enter into the joys of the Lord which are forevermore. Let us, everyone, go on unto perfection.

Value Of Christian Growth (con't)

guard against falling away by exhorting one another daily. (Hebrews 3:12, 13.) They are to consider one another and provoke to love and good works. (Hebrews 10:24, 25.) When one sins, he is to be restored in the spirit of meekness. (Galatians 6:1.) Christians who have developed as they ought will be active in such work. Such action will keep many from backsliding and will help restore many others who already have. Then too, these good works will be spiritual exercise to strengthen those who participate in them. So there are multiplied benefits from growth in this area.

What is the salvation of a soul and a home in heaven worth? In parable, Jesus pointed out that the man who buried his talent was rejected. (Matthew 25.) Was he not suggesting that for a Christian to fail to properly use and develop his talent was to place him in danger of eternal loss? Does not this parable also teach that the person who uses his talent increases it and brings heaven within reach? What are the powers for good of a mature, full-grown Christian who uses all his talents? A pebble thrown into the middle of a calm lake will start tiny ripples that keep spreading until they reach the most distant shore. It is a stirring thought that the godly life of one Christian may continue to reach out and bear fruit so long as the world stands. During a life time, through his speech and action, he may affect the lives of tens of thousands. He might lead only ten to Christ but those ten may lead a hundred and the hundred a thousand and on and on! Through them and through the lives of his children and grand children, his influence may live on to affect the lives of succeeding generations, maybe to the very end of time! Then for an endless eternity, vacancies in hell and souls in heaven will bear witness to his influence for good. This potential for good resides in each one of us or a similar potential for evil. Developing into the kind of person that God desires enables this potential to be put to work for good instead of evil.

We cannot, then, accurately assess the real value of Christian growth. Without question though, the greatest challenge ever given to man is for him to develop into the likeness of the Son of God. Unquestionably too, the greatest rewards that heaven and earth have to offer are for those who constantly are growing in that direction.

Lord Commands Growth (con't)

The Hebrew Christians should have been mature when it was said, "You need milk, not solid food, for though by this time you ought to be teachers." But they still needed to be taught. It is then pointed out that "every one who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a child." A failure to grow renders one incapable of doing the will of God, and we remember that Jesus said, "Not every one who says to me Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." Why are there so few who teach others, visit the sick, feed the poor, pray, give liberally, and shine in the glory and image of God? Is it not because they are unskilled in the word of righteousness? "Solid food is for the mature," but we are thankful to God that in the spiritual growth there is no weakening or anticlimax, for we read, "But though our outward man is decaying, yet our spiritual man is renewed day by day." Let us pray for the day when there will be an awakening to the fact that the Lord commands Christian growth.

SPECIAL THANKS

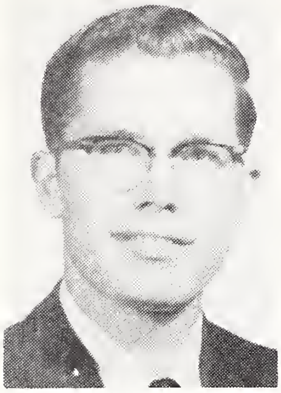
Our thanks to Ernest Thigpen of Greenville, S. C. for getting together the material for this special issue on "Christian Growth." Look for other special issues to follow.

Do you like the new appearance of the paper and it being on schedule?

Support these improvements with your subscription and Directory, Literature and Book Orders.

WAYS TO GROW

Kenneth Willis, Tryon, N. C.



Parents do not expect their child to walk, talk, feed, and care for itself in those early days of infancy. However, if over a period of years the child still does not show signs of growth in these normal areas of childhood, it is realized that something is wrong. And certainly when any person, plant, or animal fails to grow as it should, there are indications of an organic disorder or an improper diet. Likewise, with Christians; when they fail to grow and mature in Christ, something is lacking.

To one such group who had failed to grow, the Hebrew writer addressed these words, "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat." (Hebrews 5:12.)

Two of our great needs today is that of learning to feed ourselves, and of the ways we should grow as Christians. In beginning our growth and the process of feeding ourselves, just as a baby, we must have the proper diet. The Apostle Peter exhorted, "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may GROW thereby." (I Peter 2:2.) By feeding on the milk of the word of God, the Christian's faith can be strengthened that he will grow in the service of Christ. The very foundation of one's faith, Jesus Christ, is laid by the word of God. "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17.) Thus, through regular, careful, and prayerful Bible reading, a Christian can grow in knowledge of the one who "suffered for us, leaving us an example that we should follow in his steps." (I Peter 2:21.)

It has been said that the Christian life is like a great reservoir with many outlets. We can use the different outlets so much that the reservoir is in danger of running dry. Thus, thinking of the Christian life as a reservoir, it is imperative that the Christian find and use ways of growing so that the reservoir will have regular sources of supply. If the reservoir of the Christian life is drained through outlets of temptation, loneliness, or depression, the need arises of a source stream to replenish the reservoir. By such source springs of Bible reading and meditation the Christian can grow to be a blessed and happy man "That walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night." (Psalms 1:1, 2.)

Not only can a Christian grow and fill the reservoir of his spiritual life with Bible reading and meditation, but also with the flowing spring of prayer and communion with his Heavenly Father. A great truth indeed, "What a friend we have in Jesus," and how we need as Christians to grow up on our knees in prayer to God by taking our cares and problems to him!

Another way a Christian can and must grow is in the area of love for God and fellow-man, which also serves as a spring to fill the reservoir of the Christian life. Paul taught that without love a man was nothing. Christ emphasized that the first and great commandment is, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." (Matthew 22:37.) He went on to add that the second was like unto it in that one must love his neighbor as himself. The reality of this love will be demonstrated through outlets of good works and acts of kindness to the needy, through sympathy to the unfortunate, and through liberal sacrifices to the church.

QUESTIONS

Leslie G. Thomas, Asheville, N. C.

(1) What obligation does the church, that is, the local congregation, have in relieving the distress of needy non-Christians by way of benevolence?

"So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men, and especially toward them that are of the household of the faith." (Gal. 6:10) The letter in which this exhortation is found was addressed to "the churches (congregations) of Galatia;" and it is certainly reasonable to conclude that here we have the obligation of congregations, as well as that of individual members. "All men" include both those in the church and those out of it; but if a distinction must be made, for lack of ability, etc., then the preference should be showed to "them that are of the household of the faith," that is, to Christians.

(2) Please suggest ways in which the church may care for the fatherless and widows.

The present infinitive, in the expression "to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction" literally means to look after them; and any one who stops to think will readily see that no particular method for such service is mentioned. If those in need already have a place in which to live, then the Lord's people may go there, determine their needs, and then do whatever is necessary in order to supply them. Again, it might be necessary to find a home for them, either a house into which they may be moved where they can live alone, or with someone else. The church might arrange for some other people to care for them, either in their own homes, or in a home which has been provided for such purposes. The New Testament nowhere tells Christian people just how they are to go about such work; and any one method must be used in the exclusion of all others, is guilty of making a law where the Lord has not made one. Such a person should learn that it is just as sinful to make a law where God has not made one, as it is to break a law which he has made.

(3) Are the cooperative evangelistic efforts among us, such as the Herald of Truth, on sound scriptural basis?

A single congregation has charge of and directs the program which is known as the Herald of Truth, and the other congregations which are supporting the work are doing so as independent, autonomous congregations; and they certainly have the right to contribute to any worthwhile endeavor, so long as they can maintain their independence and be sure that their money is being used for the purpose for which it was intended. This seems to be the situation with reference to the Herald of Truth and similar endeavors. The various churches in Macedonia, Achaia, Galatia, and probably other provinces, sent their contributions to Jerusalem, so that the brethren there could see that the needy in that area were taken care of; and if churches could do that, then, upon the same principle, they could also help in preaching the gospel to those who need to hear it.

CAROLINA PULPIT

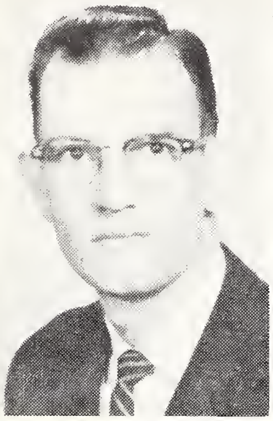
February 15 has been set as the deadline for all manuscripts to be in for the proposed book, Carolina Pulpit. No publication date has been set but the book will be published as soon as possible after all material is in.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please remember to send your change of address as soon as possible.

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.



GOSPEL PRESS, which began placing religious teaching advertisements in national magazines in November 1955, reports that over 10 million individual magazines have carried their ads to date. The PARK HILL CHURCH of Denver, Colorado placed an advertisement in the December 8 issue of Family Weekly, a Sunday newspaper supplement with a paid circulation of 4.7 million, entitled, "How Would You Answer These Three Basic Questions?" This is a part of the WORLD WIDE BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM sponsored by the Park Hill church to which 32 congregations have made contributions. From this advertisment 2,000 inquiries are expected and it is anticipated that 800 will be enrolled in a free Bible Correspondence Course.

A budget of nearly 2 million dollars had been adopted by the elders of the HIGHLAND CHURCH for the HERALD OF TRUTH in 1964. This budget will enable the program to be presented over 200 or more television stations and on more than 1,400 radio stations weekly. Of these radio stations, 128 will be foreign English-language stations. In its eleven years of programming more than a half million responses to programs have been received and as a result of this work, in whole or in part, some 225,000 people have been converted or restored.

The first Christian College Lectureship of 1964 will be conducted by DAVID LIPSCOMB COLLEGE January 20-23 with the theme: The Immovable Kingdom. Following this will come LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN COLLEGE Lectures February 2-7 and the ABILENE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE Lectureship February 23-27. Japan's IBARAKI CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, which began in April, 1948 with 60 students, now has an enrollment of 1,139. Since 1948, 30 congregations have begun in the Ibaraki area. A new dormitory is presently under construction at YORK COLLEGE designed to house an additional 136 students, the cost of which, including furniture and architect's fees, is $240,000. After 6 years of operation, LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN COLLEGE has been granted full membership in the Southern Association of Colleges, thus providing highest accreditation and national recognition. More than 3,000 gathered for the closing activities of the 40th. Annual Lectureship at HARDING COLLEGE.

According to Cline R. Paden the Statistical Abstract of the U. S., published by the U.S. Department of Commerce states that the church of Christ has 18,500 congregations, but only 6,000 ministers. According to this only 32% of the churches of Christ have ministers, pointing up our preacher shortage, as compared with 100% for the National Baptist Convention, 92% for the Southern Baptist Convention, and 63% for the Methodist church.

S. K. Dong (D. D. Bell), a Korean who came to America seven and one half years ago, is now returning home. Through his efforts and that of others, $226,403 have been raised for the Korean mission efforts. J. C. Bailey, who formerly served with the U.S. Navy in the Hong Kong area, resigned his Lieutenant's Commission to return with his family to Hong Kong as a gospel preacher. Twelve male students at FORTH WORTH CHRISTIAN COLLEGE have returned from Tanganyika, Africa where they did evangelistic work for 12 weeks, during which time 1,000 baptisms were reported. L. T. Gurganus has begun a second tour of duty in Japan. Maurice Hall left January 1 for mission work in VIET NAM. The church in New Deal, Texas plans to send 100 personal workers to SAN JUAN for 30 days in 1965 at which time a gospel meeting will be conducted.

WHAT ABOUT SABBATH DAYS?

Ray Moses, Greenville, S. C.

Twice in recent months, and I believe with sincerely good intentions, a well-known television entertainer has stated that our grandparents spoke of "the holy sabbath", our parents called it "the sabbath" while we merely speak of the "week-end."

Recently some important members of a leading denomination in the Greenville, S. C. area, adopted a resolution dondemning a list of sins in which they included "sabbath breaking".

Let us make a brief survey of what the Bible teaches about sabbaths and Sundays. Many seem to ignore the basic fact that when the Bible speaks of "sabbaths" or of "sabbath days" it is not speaking of Sundays. In our way of reading from left to right, the arrangement of the days of the week on any ordinary calendar will show that Saturday is the seventh day of the week and is therefore the day which the Israelites were to keep as the sabbath.

But under the law of Moses (which was directed to Israelites only) there were several other sabbaths. A study of the 23rd chapter of Leviticus calls our attention to some sabbaths in addition to the seventh day of the week--in fact it would be impossible for all of them to come on the seventh day of the week. Of this chapter, verses 23-32 tell us that the first, ninth and tenth days of the seventh month are to be sabbath days. Verse 39 tells us that the fifteenth day of the seventh month is to be a sabbath. Thus four sabbaths are listed as occurring in a period of fifteen days! Who can show that these sabbaths are not binding on us if other sabbaths are?

How were people to observe the sabbaths, besides being idle? The Jews understood that they were not to travel on a sabbath day more than a short distance. "Ye shall kindle no fire throughout your habitations upon the sabbath day". (Exodus 35:3.) I'm glad such a command was directed to the people of Israel--not to the people of Alaska or of Greenland.

If the law of Moses were binding upon us today, what would be the duty of Christians toward a brother who broke the Sabbath? Turn to Number 16:32-36 and you can read of a man who was officially stoned to death because he picked up some sticks on the sabbath day. With that penalty in mind, I challenge any reader to show me a person who keeps all the sabbaths and keeps them according to Old Testament standards!

Now let us turn to the New Testament and see if the commandment to keep any sabbath was ever directed to Christians.

Jesus quoted several of the Ten Commandments--though an honest observance of his teachings made them unnecessary. He never quoted the commandment in regard to the sabbath day.

Jesus repeatedly healed sick people on sabbath days and defended his right to do so, stating that it was lawful to do good on the sabbath. He defended his disciples when they gathered some small grain to eat on the sabbath day. And he endorsed work that was somewhat heavier when he told a man whom he had healed to take up his bed and go into his house. (Mark 2:11).

Before we continue this line of argument let us see if we can find anything that seems to point in a different direction. "And as his custom was, he entered into the synagogue on the sabbath day and stood up for to read.' (Luke 4:16). Jesus was an Israelite living under the law of Moses, but he probably would have taken the opportunity to speak the word of God if he had found people assembled at another place and on some other day of the week.

"And they returned and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment." Luke 23:56. These women, who intended to anoint the body of Jesus, were also Israelites, and the church was not yet fully establish-some Jews clung to sabbath observance and other parts of the law of Moses after the church was established.

In predicting the destruction of Jerusalem, Jesus said, "Pray that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day." Matt. 24:20. This has been explained by the statement that the city gates were shut on the sabbath and therefore those in the city could not flee on that day.

Since the sabbaths were a part of the law of Moses perhaps we should again quote some of the Scriptures which show that the law is not binding on Christians today." "Ye are not under the law but under grace." (Rom. 6:14.) "Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth." (Romans 10:4.) The Ten Commandments were a part of the law that was abolished, giving place to the more heart-searching teachings of Jesus. See II Cor. 3:7-13. The keeping of all sabbaths was abolished with it, unless they are revived in the New Covenant.

The first gospel sermon ever preached, laying down the terms of salvation based on the death and ressurection of Jesus as accomplished facts, was preached by Peter on the day of Pentecost. We believe that he was using the keys of the kingdom of heaven promised him in Matt. 16:19. He did say what people should do to be saved. He said nothing about keeping sabbaths. See Acts 2:38-40. Another good chance to have mentioned sabbath-keeping, if it were necessary, was when the Holy Spirit came to Gentiles. Acts 10:34-38. Again nothing is said about sabbaths.

A little later in the history of the church, the question of whether Christians were under obligation to keep the law of Moses came up in the church at Antioch. A council was held in Jerusalem. Among those present were James, Peter, Paul, and Barnabas. The letter which they wrote to Gentile Christians in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia, contains these words, "Forasmuch as we have heard that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying 'Ye must be circumcised and keep the law' to whom we gave no such commandment." (Acts 15:24.) These Gentile Christians were given some instruction in regard to Christian living, but not one word is said about sabbath days.

Let us have a few more quotations from Paul's letters. "One man esteemeth one day above another; another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." (Rom. 14:5)

"Let no man therefore judge you in meats or in drink, or in respect to an holy day, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days. (Col. 2:16.)

Perhaps someone is ready to say, "Why all that is about the Jewish sabbath" What about Sunday?"

So far as I know, the word "Sunday" is not found in the Bible. However we have references to the first day of the week, which of course, is Sunday.

According to our way of counting time, Jesus rose from the dead very early Sunday morning. (Mark 16:1-2).

At least once the disciples met on the first day of the week to break bread, and Paul preached to them. Acts 20:7. The Apostle Paul directed the Christians in Galatia and Corinth to lay aside an offering on the first day of the week. I Cor. 16:12. Thus we have excellent examples for meeting on the first day of the week for communion services and preaching and, by implication at least, for hymn singing and prayer. We don't have authority, even figuratively, to throw stones at anyone for picking up sticks on Sunday. Sunday as the Christian's sabbath is a matter of tradition--and tradition can lead us far astray. It is better to stick to a "Thus saith the Lord."

As a matter of courtesy and good will I wouldn't wish to work or play on any day of the week in a way that would disturb other people in their religious services.

I think Jesus would say that work necessary for the care of sick people or the saving of the lost, or even for the humane treatment of animals, is more holy than idleness would be in the presence of such needs. One thing is certain, All a Christian's days are to be holy days--not just one in seven.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

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NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

Charlotte

PAUL KIDWELL, Reporting: November was a good month for the Plaza in many ways. Despite attendance slumps during the holidays, the attendance and contribution showed general increase. The Plaza is free, as far as I can tell, from those who hold and propagate divisive hobbies. It is our intention to keep it this way. A strong eldership, determined to hold the truth, insures our hope for the church. The Herald of Truth is now heard in Charlotte over WBT (1110 KC) each Sunday at 7:30 A. M. The Dilworth congregation of this city is instrumental in the presentation of these programs.

A special effort in Newfoundland is planned for July, 1964. We need volunteers who will go with us. Ed Sewell of Kinston, Johnny Sewell of Charlotte, and Doyle Mills of Valdosta, Georgia have agreed to work toward that end. We would like to have 12 preachers (or others who can and will do personal work) for this effort. Would it not be fine to have most of these from the Carolinas? Write me for more details if you are interested.

Kinston

ED SEWELL, Reporting: During November there were two baptisms here. New records were set for monthly average attendance--Bible school, 105; worship, 98.

On December 1, additional records were set with 115 in Bible school and 112 in worship. We plan a public debate next spring with a representative of the Jehovah's Witnesses.

With only two weeks remaining in 1963 it seems that we may not reach our goal of 20 baptisms for the year. The total stands at 15 baptisms, one restoration, and three by membership. We have experienced 50% increases in both attendance and contribution in 1963. We thank God, take courage, and press on to do more in '64.

Whiteville

VIRGIL HALE, Reporting: In November we had two baptisms, set a new record in attendance with 112 present on November 17, and had a very good meeting with Jesse Melton from Wilson doing the preaching. Our Sunday morning attendance averaged 94, Sunday evening 72 and Wednesday evening 62. Our contribution averaged $91.38.

Bro. Melton did an outstanding job of proclaiming the gospel in our meeting November 18-24. His influence during this effort will be felt for a long time. We did not have any "visible results" in the sense this term is generally used. I do not feel that meetings can be measured by the immediate results alone.

The "Welcome Wagon" is distributing information concerning the church free of charge. A lady visits homes of newcomers to town, and visits homes of new arrivals in families and on other occasions. I feel that this is a wonderful opportunity for the church to become better known in this area.

A good schedule of cottage meetings using film strips is continuing. I feel that these are largely responsible for at least seven of the 11 baptisms we have had thus far this year. Remember the efforts in Whiteville in your prayers.

Lexington

WALTER NEAL, Reporting: September 5, 1962, my wife and I moved here to begin full time work with 13 members. We now have 28. During these 14 months, three good meetings have been conducted. In each meeting the attendance has increased.

Last Sunday night brought to a close a good meeting with ten speakers doing an outstanding job. It was some of the finest preaching I have ever heard. It was a great inspiration to me to hear seven of them. One was baptized who was a Baptist, and one restored who had been away from the church for several years. It does something to you when you are in a mission field as these two Carolinas are. My wife and I are enjoying the work.

What preacher will give us a meeting next April 12-19 or what congregation will send us a preacher for this meeting? Our needs are great, and this is one of them.

Rocky Mount

JOE COSTILOW, Reporting: A quick glance over the record for the past year shows that the church in Rocky Mount has made some progress even though it has not been spectacular.

Our attendance in 1963 has averaged more at each of the services than in 1962. We have averaged $15.00 per week over our budget and our membership, as we enter the last month of the year, stands at 35 which is an all time high.

Beginning the last quarter of 1963 we added another class and two more teachers. This makes a class in each age group and it is the first time this has been possible since the church was established. We also began a Ladies Bible Class meeting on Thursday morning.

As we look to the new year we are faced with a greater challenge than we had been anticipating. Since preparing our budget for 1964, we have learned that two families will be leaving us around the first of Jan. This will necessitate a reappraisal of our budget and some changes in the work we had proposed to do. We hope to do even more in 1964 and our prayer is that the church in both Carolinas will post greater gains than ever before.

Marion

M.F. NORWOOD, Reporting: Our work is moving along with two cottage meetings in progress here and one to begin Thursday in Yancy County near Burnsville in a Free Will Baptist building. I closed a meeting there without any visible results but at least seven adults have expressed a desire to obey the gospel. That is why I am going back. The attendance ranged from 18 on Dec. 1 to 50 before we closed.

We appreciate the Messenger and will do all we can to help out.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: When the readers of the new Carolina Christian read these reports in January, they may wonder what has been accomplished during 1963 for the Lord. Glancing back over last year's issues, I see great progress in some areas and sadly, much more to be done in others. Let me thank all who have contributed to the cause of Christ in the Carolinas. To those who have shirked their responsibility, please let Christ back into your life.

Anderson

RHODEN PRESNELL, Reporting: I have submitted my resignation to the church at Anderson, S.C., and will begin work with the Durant Ave. church in N. Charleston Dec. 23. My reason for leaving is because Anderson will be unable to support a full time preacher. We have received outside support of $230 per month this year, but because of local members moving away this amount is not sufficient.

N. CHARLESTON, Durant Avenue

J.C. WATKINS, Reporting: We are very

happy to announce that Rhoden Presnell of Anderson has accepted our invitation to work with us. We are certainly looking forward to his coming.

The brethren here who have carried on the work in the absence of a regular minister are certainly to be commended. They have done an excellent job and we are thankful for men of this caliber in the Lord's kingdom.

Rock Hill

H. GRADY SLATTON, Reporting: Three have been baptized here in recent weeks. Brother David Pharr, a native of North Wilkesboro, N. C., presently preaching at Gallipolis, Ohio, will be working with us starting January 1, 1964.

Camden

C. C. VAUGHAN, Reporting: The church in Camden, meeting at the corner of King and Lyttleton St., is working with the Kelly St. church in Williston and the Park St. church in Columbia to establish the true church among the colored people of Columbia. About 5 weeks ago a Methodist preacher, a graduate of Allen University, confessed Christ and was baptized into Christ. On December 1, 1963, a Baptist preacher was obedient to the gospel. Bro. V. E. williamson is working with this small group in Columbia.

On the 5th Sunday of December, 1963, all churches of Christ among the colored will meet in Camden, S. C., at 2:30 PM. for a service of worship. We are looking for 400-500 people.

I am happy to have attended the first annual meeting of the Carolina Christian Publications, Inc. Bro. Richard J. Harris of the congregation where I am minister accompanied me to Charlotte. It was inspiring to have been there. We all need the truth and inspiration the Messenger conveys. The entire staff of this great paper is devoted to the task of making this publication the best in print. I, C. C. Vaughan, have many good reasons for urging every soul to read and encourage others to subscribe for this paper.

Florence

H. P. DODD, Reporting: The church here has just experienced the work of promoting a gospel meeting by use of the "Big Tent" with John Fogarty and Ermon Bain. We consider this a good meeting and it is well conducted. The preaching was excellent. Attendance was not so good. There were 3 baptisms. This alone is worth the expense and work of conducting the meeting. Much good was done by personal work, distribution of tracts, filmstrips, and personal counsel.

We have one new family, the James Owens from Bruton, Ala., meeting with us. Our attendance holds up good. We are looking forward to one of the greatest years at Florence.

Aiken

RICHARD WALKER, Reporting: The church in Aiken continues to make great strides of progress in the Lord's work. Since July we have set new records in almost all phases of work and worship. Our attendance on Sunday morning has averaged 158 for the past two months, and our contributions have averaged $251.

In a business meeting Dec. 8, the decision was made to purchase a plot on Highway 19 S. for the construction of a new building. We are hoping that final transactions on this property will be made before January 1. Our budget for 1964 has been set at $300 weekly which includes payment on a new building. A loan has already been secured for the construction of the new building. Since July we have recorded five baptisms, two restorations, and four have placed membership. Pray for us in our labors.

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Charleston, Riverside

CLIFFORD SHAVER, Reporting: The work here continues with good interest. Since moving into our new building there has been a marked increase in contributions and attendance. David Pharr did his part well in a recent gospel meeting. One was baptized and one restored. We have had a number of people to place membership.

The brethren have consented to give me 3 weeks off in February for the purpose of making a tour of the Bible lands. Our trip will also take us to Rome and Paris.

Williston

TOM JACKSON, Reporting: The Williston church of Christ is now looking for a preacher to replace Vernon Joines. Bro. Joines has served us well for the past 27 months and he has decided to move to Kentucky to further his education. Since its beginning the local congregation has been self-supporting. We would like to ask that the preachers in the Carolinas refer any possible prospects directly to us at P. O. Box 393, Williston, S. C.

Greenville, Northeast

BURL CURTIS, Reporting: For the past three years the Northeast congregation has met in the fall for an annual planning meeting. In the first one, we set as one of our major goals the finding of suitable property on which to build. This resulted in the purchase of 2.08 acres on the Wade Hampton Boulevard.

November 17, 1962, we drew up long-range plans (through 1970) with 1963 as the target date to completely pay for our building lot. With this year almost over we have not completely met our goal but we are very happy to report that the debt on the lots has been reduced from $9,000 to $1,093. We will continue to work and we believe that this balance can be removed in the early part of 1964.

Our long-range plans call for the construction of our building in 1964. We hope to be ready to start construction in the spring.

We have had one baptism in December. Our budget is set at $100 per week for 1964.

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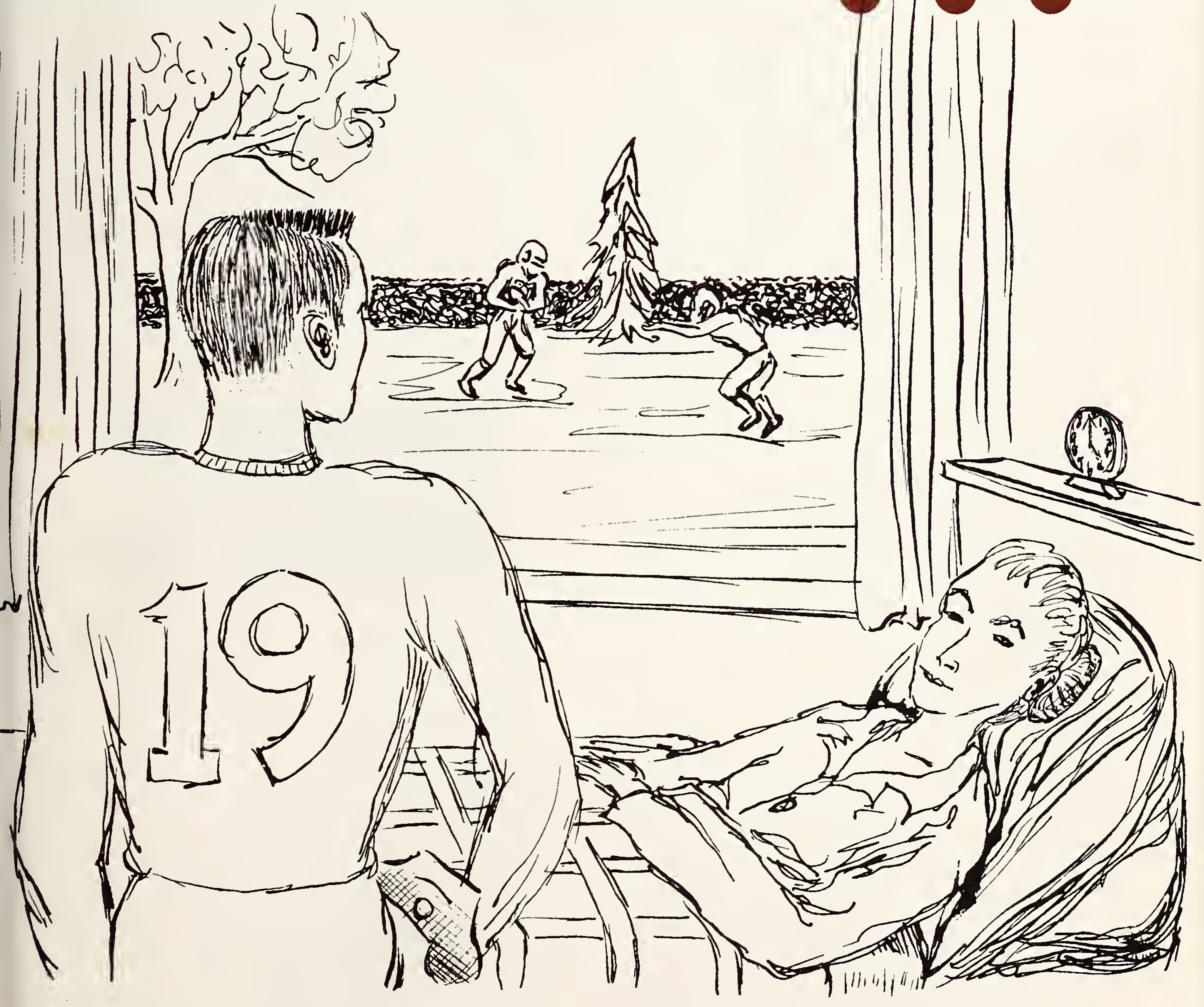

"Bodily exercise profits little, but Godliness is profitable unto all things."

FEBRUARY, 1964 VOLUME 6, NUMBER 2

Godly Living - Pressing Need Of Our Time

Virgil Richie, Spartanburg, S. C.*

Each day we are made more aware of the need for godly living among people everywhere. Many of the tragic events related in the daily newspaper and on news broadcasts are caused by the lack of godliness. The shocking acts one week end of a few months ago are a prime example. Three men, one of whom was the President of the United States, lost their lives simply because some people were not practicing godly living. Many people suffer violent deaths daily on our highways for the same reason. On December 31, 1963, an article in the Spartanburg newspaper stated: "With the dangerous New Year's Eve period still ahead, South Carolina entered the final day of 1963 with at least 794 traffic fatalities counted during the year. The incomplete 1963 toll was an increase of 37 above the state's total traffic score of 757 deaths in 1962." An increase of 37 above 1962! These figures represent only one state and only one cause of death--traffic. Add to these the figures of other states and of other countries plus the loss of life and property caused by other crimes, and you have the miserable picture of our modern day. How much misery, woe, and suffering could be avoided if more people would live godly.

The godly life is the only sensible life to live. There is a New Testament passage which reads: "For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come." (1 Timothy 4:8.) It isn't difficult to see why godliness is profitable to all things. A man who lives godly will take better care of himself physically, and thus will enjoy the best health possible. Moreover, he will attempt to the best of his ability to grow mentally. In addition, he will have a greater opportunity to make real and lasting friendships thus increasing his life socially. But above all, one who will live godly has the opportunity to grow spiritually. As far as I know, it is conceded by all men, even those who do not pretend to serve God, that the godly life is the best life of all. One, then, who lives godly has everything to gain and nothing to lose; and one who will not live godly has everything to lose and nothing to gain. Thus, we see the value of godly living and its great need among the people of the world.

There is also a need for godly living in the church. Godliness links us to God. When we practice godliness, we become more God-like. Webster says that godliness is "careful observance of or conformity to the laws of God." The New Testament says, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." Most Christians live an exemplary life, yet there are some whose lives are a reproach to Christ and his church. Every gospel preacher has had the experience of talking to some one about

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*Guest Editor for this month.

his obeying the gospel only to hear, "I would obey the gospel, but I am as good as some members of the church." Although such an attitude cannot justify a soul, think of the eternal plight of the one who was the occasion of stumbling. Think of the damage done to the church. It is the business of every Christian to try to become more like God every day. Paul wrote, "Be ye therefore followers (imitators) of God, as dear children." (Eph. 5:1.)

But what is meant by godly living? It is a life of devotion, dedication, and consecration. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." (2 Cor. 6:17-7:1.) A godly life belongs to God and is lived in service to the Lord Jesus. Every one then, who has put on Christ in baptism, is obligated to live godly.

Next, a godly life is a life of self-denial. The greatest difficulty and obstacle which lies in our way of truly being godly is SELF. Jesus said:..."If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Matt. 16:24.)

The godly life is also a life of purity. The apostle wrote these words to Timothy: "Keep thyself pure," (1 Tim. 5:22.) and "flee youthful lusts." (2 Tim. 2:22.) Also, "be thou an example... in purity." (1 Tim. 4:12.) Some are want to complain about this and say that God has required of us regarding purity so much that we can't live up to his requirements. Is that really true? Has God required of us an impossibility? Not at all. The fact is that those who make this complaint DO NOT REALLY WANT TO DO ALL GOD REQUIRES. Impure desires are created, not because of what God has forbidden, but because of the motivation of the worldly mind. The modern dance is a good example of this attitude. It was created by those who had a desire to express their physical, lustful yearnings, and it has become socially acceptable because there are those who seemingly cannot see any harm in it. Yet upon proper investigation, it is found that the modern dance from its beginning until now has been the avenue for many into ruin, shame, degradation, delusion, and above all, spiritual decay. Mr. J. Edgar Hoover says that sixty-five per cent of the young women who are known to inhabit places of prostitution today admit that they got their start with the modern dance. Another thing which leads to improper and impure thoughts is improper dress. The word of God condemns such as immodest apparel. (1 Tim. 2:9,10.) Those who desire to live godly will avoid such things. The people of God are sanctified (set apart to do God's will). (1 Cor. 6:11.) Therefore, it behooves all Christians to live godly, sanctified lives.

The godly life is, moreover, a life of prayer. "I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands..." The Christian life cannot be lived without it. Our Lord, his apostles, and all of the great men of the Bible were men of prayer. If the Son of God felt the need of prayer, certainly those who desire to follow in his steps should feel the need of it. We should pray congregationally and individually. Neglect of this privilege and duty robs us of many blessings from our God.

Finally, the godly life is a life of obedience. Our obedience to the Lord does not, as some seem to think, end the moment we are baptized into Christ. The godly life is a life of continual obedience. It is the Lord's to command; it is ours to obey. Thus, when an obedient life is lived, when a prayerful life is lived, when a life of self-denial, when a pure life is lived, when all these things are brought together in one life, you have a life that is godly. Indeed, this is the best life which one can possibly live. If more people would live godly, the church would be better and the world would be better and a great need would be filled.

Godly Living - A Condition Of Salvation

Tom Bolick, Chester, S. C.

A country boy dressed in his "Sunday suit" was picked up by a truck driver as he thumbed into a large city. The young man began to tell of the "hot time" he planned to have that night at the taverns. The truck hit a bump in the road and a Bible fell out of the boy's back pocket. The truck driver was quite startled and asked, "If you're planning on having such a time tonight, why do you have your Bible with you?" The boy replied, "Oh, I plan to go to church tomorrow with my cousin." Humorous, yes! Sad and true, yes! It is pathetic that so many Christians never fully comprehend what it means to live a godly life.

From Adam to the present, God has required godliness of his children. Indeed, how could there be a distinction between sons of Satan and sons of God without it? Even angels, created for God's service, were cast from his presence when they ceased to be God-like. (2 Peter 2:4.) Under Moses, the priests were to be completely set apart to perform worship services in the temple and spiritual instruction. Aaron, Israel's first high priest, was commanded to "make a plate of pure gold, and grave upon it...HOLY TO JEHOVAH... and it shall be upon Aaron's forehead." (Exodus 28:36-38.)

When does the Christian begin his walk of holiness? How is it brought about? No limb can bear fruit unless it first be part of the trunk. There can be no true holiness until one becomes a part of Christ, the source of holiness. There must be a "rebirth," spiritual in nature, that places man in contact with the origin of holiness, and enables him to live holy. Jesus explained this new birth in John 3. It is a condition of entering the kingdom, or being saved. "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, 'Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.'" (John 3:3.) It was a birth of "water and the Spirit." (v. 5.) In Acts, we find people believing in Christ, repenting of their sins, and being baptized into Christ. (Acts 2:38.) Here is a birth of water and the Spirit. When Paul explained the necessity of godly living to the Roman Christians, he recalled their baptism. They had "crucified the old man of sin," and had been "raised to walk in newness of life," presenting their bodies as "instruments of righteousness." In obedience to God's command, they had been "made free from sin and became servants to God, with their fruit unto sanctification, and the end eternal life." (Romans 6.) Sanctification (godliness) was the product of the new birth and an essential to salvation. "Follow after peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no man shall see the Lord." (Heb. 12:14.) This all says that godliness is a condition of salvation.

The Christian is often called a saint in the Scriptures, attesting his relationship with Christ. Paul addressed the church at Corinth as "them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints." (1 Cor. 1:2.) With a multiplicity of sins in that church, did Paul make a mistake when addressing them as saints? No, indeed! He recognized that"...our Lord Jesus Christ is able also to confirm you unto the end, that ye be unreprovable in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ." (vs. 7,8.) Paul admonishes toward holiness, "Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers: for what fellowship have righteousness and iniquity? or what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what portion hath a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement hath a temple of God with idols...? Wherefore, come ye out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch no unclean thing..." (2 Cor. 6:14-17.) A saint is one who "has come out from among them" and is separate. Paul continues to warn the Corinthians: "Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with men, nor theives, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye were washed, but ye were sanctified, but ye were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God." (1 Cor. 6:9-11.) They had been all those things, but they had been washed, sanctified, and justified in Christ.

The Christian is holy because his body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor. 6:19,20.) Nothing should defile this sanctuary of the Spirit whether it be a sin of the flesh, or of the spirit. There are many who would not defile their lungs with tobacco smoke, but have envy, jealousy, lust, and hatred in their hearts. Note Paul's concern with this problem in his admonition that we "cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." (2 Cor. 7:1.)

Every Christian is a priest and, therefore, has holy chores to perform. (1 Pet. 2:5.) It is unfortunate that many confine their image of a priest to that of attending worship services. A priest, under the law, served God and the people. This is exactly what is required of the priest under Christ. Were not the two greatest commands to "love God... and our neighbor as ourself"? We serve God by serving man. (Cf. Matt. 25.) Worship is an integral part of the priest's life, but attending worship without consecration of life during the week is to make mockery of the ONE whom we worship. This prominent sin of Israel, Jeremiah condemned strongly: "Behold, you trust in deceptive words to no avail. Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, burn incense to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known, and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name and say, 'We are delivered' --only to go on doing all these abominations?" (Jer. 7:8-10.)

There is a price to pay when the holy life is lived. Jesus wept over Jerusalem, whose people had killed the prophets of God sent to reconcile them to Jehovah. (Cf. Matt. 23:37, 38.) The Apostles were imprisoned and killed because of holiness. John the Baptist incurred the wrath of a vengeful woman because he preached holiness. Paul declared, "All who live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecutions." (2 Tim. 3:12.) Jesus promises, "Blessed are they that have been persecuted for righteousness' sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 5:10.) Is eternal life worth this price? For those whose thirst has been quenched at the fount of life, there comes a resounding, "Yes."

"Take time to be holy,
Be Calm in thy soul;
Each thought and each motive,
Beneath His control;
Thus led by His Spirit
To fountains of love,
Thou soon shalt be fitted
For service above."

CAROLINA LECTURES

We are planning panels on: "Problems of Youth," "Responsibility of Youth," "Personal Work," and "The Christian and Integration."

Five one hour singing classes will be taught by Richard Walker of Aiken, S. C. and teacher training by Ray and Margaret Fullerton of Goldsboro, N. C.

Wayne Poucher of McLean, Virginia will speak one night. Plan now to attend April 6-10. Watch for the complete program.

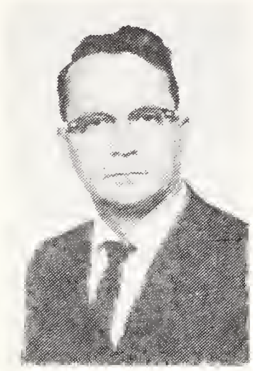
BLUE RIDGE ENCAMPMENT

George Benson, Marshall Keeble, James O. Baird. Plan to hear them all at Blue Ridge, June 22-26. Several of the Carolina preachers will appear on the program.

ART WORK - Our sincere thanks to Bill and Sarah Key for the drawings this month.

A PLEA FOR GODLY LIVING

Ottis Qualls, Woodruff, S. C.



The church is growing. Pews are being filled, but they are being filled many times by those who are devoted to the things of the world. God fearing Christians are needed, not those who are giving a "form" of religious obedience. We plead for godliness in the lives of every Christian. Godliness carries with it a value exceeding by far the riches of this life. Godly living is a must. Many people are hoping to cash in on deathbed repentance. They feel perhaps that in the last moment they can cry out in prayer asking the Lord to ignore their careless ways in life.

Every pardoned sinner is pledged to Christ for life. As Jesus is the central character, so must he become center and core of those who would live unto God. Herein lies the plea and continued admonition that having received Christ, we should also walk with him.

Without godly living we are not immune to the "firey darts" of the devil. We fall prey to the poisonous darts and poison those who come under our influence. "There is a story among the natives in the Amazon River jungle that deep in the jungle is a poison tree. It kills any animal that steps under it. This tree lives to kill. Finally it rots of its own poison and dies. How like some human beings." (Batsell Baxter) Among the last words penned by Paul were: "O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness." (1 Timothy 6:11.)

Godliness is necessary to every Christian because: "Ye are the light of the world..." (Matthew 5:14.) Christ is radiated by the godly living which makes him as visible as a "city set upon a hill."

Many are ready to concede that godliness is profitable for the future but not now. This reminds us of David's plea: "Help, Lord, for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail among the children of men." (Psalms 12:1.) If godliness is of no value while you are living, it is of no value to you when you die. We plea for godly living in every Christian because it is the evidence of the life being Christ-centered, "rooted and grounded in the truth." We need to consider the full force of Paul's statement in 1 Timothy 4:8, "For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the LIFE that NOW IS, and of that which IS TO COME."

The world and the devil surrounds us with many distractions to keep us from doing God's will. Each of us should make the resolution: "Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death." (Phil. 1:20.)

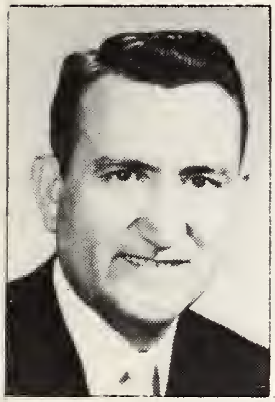
Godliness is regarded as discipline. Paul said, "Exercise thyself rather unto godliness." (1 Tim. 4:7.) Moffatt's translation reads: "Train for the religious life."

Christ-centered living is also a separation from the old self. "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer that I live, but Christ living in me: and that life that I now live in the flesh I live in faith..." (Gal. 2:20.) It should be the aim of each Christian to reproduce the life of Christ. Godliness is necessary to point others to Christ. The refuge we have found, we should be willing to share with others.

We need a delight for godliness. It results in energy, packed with power. It removes distractions, insures consistency, cutting the connection between us and the world. There can be no Christianity where there is no godliness. Godliness is letting Christ on the inside, show on the outside. The light from Christian lives shine on the pathway of lost men, making the way easier, but all that sinners contribute are only shadows of intensified darkness in a world already darkened by sin.

OPPOSITION TO GODLY LIVING

Marvin Bryant, Gaffney, S. C.



Opposition is an ever existing threat to us physically and spiritually. Satan, our enemy, is portrayed as "a roaring lion, walking about, seeking whom he may devour." (1 Peter 5:8.) We must ever be on guard "lest Satan should get an advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices." (2 Cor. 2:11.)

Opposition to godly living exists in two areas--outside or inside of us (external or internal).

External dangers are potential threats to every living soul. Even Jesus, God's son, did not escape those external temptations for we read that "He was in all points tempted as we are." (Heb. 4:15.) In Matthew 4:1-11 we read that these temptations were (1) materialism (2) social approval and (3) power (authority) over man.

God identifies these external spiritual enemies as "things that are in the world." He wants us saying, "Love not the world , neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." (1 John 2:15,16.) Here, as in the Matthew account, there are three external areas of danger.

The point needs to be made that temptation is not sin. Jesus was tempted yet was without sin. (Heb. 4:15.) Paul wrote by inspiration: "I know and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself. . . " (Romans 14:14.) Therefore, we know that it is not the thing by the use made of it that is sin. We can not, therefore, say that bread, alcohol, dope, sex, or anything is sinful in itself. Rather, they are all potentials for our good or ill depending upon our use of them.

God said, "Love not the world neither the things that are in the world." (1 John 2:15.) The word love suggests the use that is made of the created things. Anything beyond moderation in the use of creation makes an idol of creation. The over indulgence in created things directs man's thoughts, interest, energy, devotion and love to the created rather than to the creator who is blessed forever, amen. (Romans 1:25.)

The first commandment is to love God with all our heart, soul and mind. (Matthew 22:37.) The things visable to the eye around us in the world all stand as potential dangers to draw us away from God. Anyone of them CAN BE in opposition to godly living depending upon our use of them.

We can see then the greatest oppositions to godly living are within us rather than without. The stimulant that causes sin is outside but the decision to act is within. The decision is based upon desire and desire is based upon interest and interest is based upon the true heart of the man. The true heart of the man is based upon his belief, his faith, his concept of God and what is right and wrong.

Israel made a golden calf; Israel believed the report of the ten spies and decided not to pursue in effort to conquering the promised land. They murmured against God, Moses, the food, drink, and their every experience in the wilderness. They were rejected of God for unbelief, the basic and underlying reason for all of their overt expression of evil. "So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief." (Hebrews 3:19.)

Unbelief is the underlying cause for sin. God promises the abundant life. If we believe we will reject any and all worldly (created) stimulants and trust God for His promise. God promises victory over ev-

(see page 9)

REWARDS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Roy Burgess, Duncan, S. C.

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame; and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Heb. 12:1, 2.)

Does It Pay?

The above seems to be the thought of today. Will it pay me to do this or that? Is it worthwhile? We have only to turn to the text of our lesson to know that real righteous living paid Jesus in this life and in the eternal. For the joy that God placed before him, he was able to endure the cross and all of its shame and humiliation. This is an example for us. It does pay, here and hereafter.

Not All Pay Is In Dollars And Cents

One can be blinded by just two nickles. Try it. Just place two nickles over your eyes and see how far you can see. It does not take much to blind men. Poor men with a few dollars can be as blind as rich men with their millions. A condition of the heart that looks only for pay in how many dollars and cents one can gather on earth is spiritual blindness. Of such Jesus would say: "You have your reward."

True Sacrificing Really Pays

Brother S. K. Dong, a Korean minister, stated that he was talking with a poor family in Korea, and he noticed that the man was pulling the plow while his wife did the plowing. They had no oxen. The Korean Christian explained that money was needed at church, and having none to give, he and his wife agreed to sell their oxen and give the money and make a crop that year by pulling the plow themselves. They were richly rewarded in heart by knowing they had something to give.

He also told the story of little children who often went to bed hungry because they insisted that mother take some of their meager allotment of rice and pool it with others and sell it to get money to help the church go onward. Could you imagine these people being begged to give as they were prospered?

Heart Service Always Pays

We do not find where Jesus set feet-washing in public worship, but the spirit behind the act is certainly taught in many places. "By love serve one another" (Gal. 5:13) is feet-washing in the true sense. It was my privilege to baptize a father, mother, and son in one family in Michigan, because a sister was willing to wash feet. She would go across the yard to the home of the family where all were ill. And, although she had a large family, she somehow found time to help with floor-scrubbing, cooking, washing, caring for the sick, etc. Imagine the reward when that sister stood by the baptistery and saw these wonderful people buried with their Lord in baptism for the remission of sins! This kind of reward can only come by serving. "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ." (Col. 3:23, 24.)

A Worthwhile Quotation

"In opposition to the selfish person, we delight to look upon the magnanimous individual. The magnanimous person is the joy of his countryside; a blessing wherever he goes; a living representative of the good that is hid within the heart of others... the truly magnanimous person is liberal with good will. He is one who gives a kindly translation to even the thoughtless

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words of his companions. He seeks to make wholesome interpretations of even the unkind deeds of others toward him. ...The magnanimous person not only gives of his money, but he is an uplifter of the depressed. He goes into the jungles of the wilderness of discouragement to lead the bewildered into the paths of safety. . . He has smiles that radiate good will even to the scowling and frowning ones. He has hope and cheer and optimism for even the pessimist... He has and lives the secret of real happiness.

"Happiness, peace, satisfaction, joy; in fact everything which has that bouyant, upward tendency, is the fruit of Christian magnanimity, and it comes to its fulness when exercised in the crowning of others ... The selfish one seeks to crown himself only... The sparkle of lights, the luscious fruits, the nutritious vegetables, charming literature, helpful laws, and all such like are only the fruitage of the lives of kings of helpfulness; men who have been crowned by others to serve, not to rule their fellow beings." (Rural Sermons, by Harry Benton, pages 191, 192.)

The art of crowning others is most rewarding. How many times have we rejoiced to see some young man stand and proclaim the gospel of Christ as a result of our encouraging or crowning him?

Future Life

Not only are we rewarded here for righteousness, but we are filled with hope of a future life with Jesus and all the redeemed. We shall see and enjoy being with God. (Matt. 5:8.) We shall have everlasting life, regardless of what we have had to leave or suffer for Christ. (Matt. 19:28-30.) We shall receive the crown of life after we fight the good fight of faith. (2 Tim. 4:6-8.) We shall have a new body fashioned according to Christ's glorious body. (Phil. 3:21.) This body will be immortal. (1 Cor. 15) No tears will wet the eyes. (Rev. 21:22.) Because of all this, we can endure everything for the joy that is set before us. We must walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Prepare by faith, repentance, confession, and baptism. Then be faithful.

OPPOSITION (con'd)

ery temptation. (1 Cor. 10:13.) If we believe him with explicit trust we will neither fear nor yield, but rather we will cast our cares upon him knowing that he cares for us. (1 Peter 5:7.)

Satan is our enemy but he can not touch us when we are walking by faith. We see in the experiences of Satan with Mother Eve that as long as Eve believed God she was without sin. Satan had to first stimulate a desire in her through some external agant, namely, the forbidden fruit. Secondly, he had to sow the seed of doubt and distrust in Eve's heart. God had said, and Eve repeated his words to Satan, "Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die." (Gen. 3:2, 3.) From these words we learn that Eve both understood and believed what God had said. But Satan convinced her that God had not only told her the truth but that he was withholding something good from her. This caused unbelief in her heart which was expressed in stretching forth her hands and taking that which God had forbidden.

God had made man a free moral agent with the ability to choose either good or evil. Our greatest need is to educate, discipline, and control the inward man so that we desire the good. How do we educate the soul? By hearing the word of God. (Romans 10:17.) Knowing this eternal truth the Psalmist said, "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee." (Psalms 119:11.)

While oppositions to godly living take in a great scope of things it can be ultimately reduced to one word, one thing, and one cause, UNBELIEF. No wonder God has said, "The just shall live by faith." (Rom. 1:17.) And again, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." (Romans 5:1, 2.)

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.

JACK NADEAU, a veteran of nine years as a missionary to Germany, plans to leave the states by June 1 for the purpose of starting a new congregation in the Rhur Valley of Germany. The Rhur Valley is the industrial heart of Europe with an estimated population of 10 million within a 35 mile radius.

Preparations are being made by HERBERT PHILLIPS and family for mission work in Lahore, Pakistan. They will begin this work in May partially supported by the Pinella Park, Florida church which initiated the work in Pakistan in 1961.

In NIGERIA, W. AFRICA there are presently 40,000 Christians, 475 congregations, two Bible Colleges, a gospel paper with a circulation of 5,000 per month, eight missionary families, 275 native preachers, 10 Christian elementary schools in which 7,500 school children receive daily instruction in the Bible and now plans are underway for a full Christian College.

MELVIN HARBISON reports from Hong Kong that on a single day recently he baptized 40 into Christ.

The ALFRED WALLER, JR. family, presently of Kansas City, plans to begin work in Lousanne, Switzerland in March. The STANLEY SHIPPS are already on the scene and the GENE ARNOLDS plan to join them in August.

From IRA RICE we learn that the church in Singapore is composed largely of very young people, the average age of the city's population being 19 years. Singapore has the second highest birth rate of any city in the world.

THOMAS B. WARREN, who has served for the past 10 years as minister of the Eastridge church in Fort Worth, Texas, has been named Chairman of the Bible Department of Freed-Hardeman College. Brother Warren was formerly the President of Fort Worth Christian College. He has held 15 debates and published five books.

The WEST BIRMINGHAM CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, Birmingham, Ala., began in 1960 with grades 1-3. They now offer grades 1-5, have their own property and plan to add grades 6 and 7 next year. Present enrollment is 78.

The EASTDALE AND RED BANK congregations of Chattanooga, Tenn. have launched a major effort against obscene literature that flourishes on that city's news stands. A series of sermons was preached to each congregation outlining the teachings of Scripture on purity and their plan of action. Then, in a systematic way, members of the church approach local merchants and reason with them about the problem. Generally favorable results are reported to date.

A gospel meeting in which W. A. BRADFIELD of Henderson, Tenn. did the preaching, conducted in Flint, Mich., resulted in 76 responses. In 1963 Bradfield's preaching resulted in 529 responses.

WILLARD COLLINS preached in a city-wide meeting in Waco, Texas with 106 responses. The attendance averaged more than 3,000 per service.

M. F. (MID) McNIGHT reports 2,897 responses to the gospel invitation during the three years he has served as minister of the Highland church of Abilene, Texas. In the last eight years he has worked with three congregations, each of which doubled its membership within two years.

There are approximately 100 Christian Youth Camps in the U. S. operated by members of the churches of Christ. The WISCONSIN CHRISTIAN YOUTH CAMP, INC. has begun publication of a series of workbooks especially designed for use in camp work. DALE SMITH is Editor and MONROE HAWLEY is Assistant Editor.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

Bill Shelton, N. C., News Editor
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Tom Bolick, S. C. News Editor
150 Lancaster St., Chester, S. C.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

This month, the most encouragement has come from the reports in bulletins regarding increased budgets and extended efforts that have characterized most of the congregations. Almost without exception, the leaders have reviewed the progress of 1963 and resolved to do more in '64.

A Missionary News Bulletin was received from West End in Nashville, Tenn. It closed with a list of places they would like to extend help this year. The following were listed in North and South Carolina: Lenoir, N. C., Raleigh, N. C. (colored work), Greenville, S. C. (Northeast congregation, building fund), and N. Augusta, S. C. (building fund).

The West End congregation is already supporting the work at Kinston, N.C. We are thankful for their increased interest in the Carolinas and pray that they will be able to help in the areas mentioned. (They will for they were shooting for about $14,000 on Dec. 29 and got over $18,000.-Ed.) Through Nov., 1963, West End had given regular support to 15 churches of Christ in the U. S. and nine foreign countries.

Valdese

MADELINE BROWN, Reporting: During Dec. and Jan., the church at Valdese has been without a regular minister. M. E. Burns and Dan Kimbrell have been doing the preaching and speaking on the radio. Joe Brown and Jerry Liddick have been teaching extra classes. We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our new minister, Jerry Senn, Feb. 1. The house where our minister lives has been completely "done over." Aluminum siding is on the outside, the rooms have been repainted, and the floors refinished. Our weekly bulletin has been made by this reporter.

Since our last report, two have been baptized into Christ. They were Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Watson.

Tryon

KENNETH WILLIS, Reporting: We are happy that our support has been continued so that we may work in the Carolinas another year.

A teenage girl was baptized the first Sunday of this year.

We plan at least two, and possibly three, gospel meetings in 1964. The interest and moral support of other congregations will be greatly appreciated.

Lexington

WALTER NEAL, Reporting: Our meeting in Nov. was a good one; one was baptized and one restored.

The Lord's church in Lexington had its best year in 1963, closing with the largest attendance ever. Two young ladies were baptized recently on Wed. night.

Woodleaf, Corinth

J. N. ROBERTS, Reporting: We moved into our new building Jan. 5, 1964. We began building early in 1961. It is not complete but we can use it. Our attendance and contribution have increased the last three months. During this time, three have been baptized and one restored.

The churches of Christ are having an area singing each month on the second Sunday at 3:00 P.M.

Brother Elrey is doing a good job at Corinth. He is a hard worker.

Rockingham

PAT DAWKINS, Reporting: We are very happy to have Bill G. Smith as our new minister. We feel very fortunate to have such a hard working minister. We hope to double the attendance.

The first of the month, four barrels and one box of clothing were sent to Korea where O. P. Baird is working.

We are working hard to fulfill our new goals in attendance and contribution. New classes and teachers have been set up for all ages. The records for this month are as follows: Bible study, 100 (goal 115); morning worship, 103 (115); Budget, $186 ($225); evening worship, 71 (80); Wednesday classes, 79 (80).

We are all looking forward to and making plans for the Carolina Lectures to be held here in April.

Gastonia, Union Road

THAMER GALLOWAY, Reporting: Paul S. Gray, presently with the church at Clarksburg, W. Va., has accepted an invitation to work here. Present plans are for him to move in May.

We have a budget of $275 per week. Our average contribution has been around $200 and attendance has averaged about 95.

When visiting in Gastonia, worship with us at 500 Union Road.

Raleigh

HENRY REYNOLDS, Reporting: During 1963 the Raleigh church spent over $16,000 in mission work in N. C. Some major activities were the support of the colored preacher in Raleigh and partial support of the preachers at Henderson and Whiteville. The two lots in Rochester Heights, a colored sub-division in Raleigh, were paid for and a building has been started. When completed it will seat 150 and will have four class rooms, nursery, baptistery, and a preacher's study. We have asked our sister congregations for their financial help in the construction of this building. The church here also helped to a small degree three other constructions in N. C. At the present we are sending the Carolina Christian to all families here in Raleigh as well as the families that compose the congregations at Aberdeen, Henderson, and Whiteville as well as our colored brethren.

During 1964 we plan to continue our support of the colored work in Raleigh and to assume responsibility for a full time preacher at Henderson. Since it was necessary to place a second loan on our building last year to carry on our mission activities, our budget for the coming year for mission work will be between $8,000 and $9,000.

Wilson

JESSE MELTON, Reporting: In Dec. for the first time since we entered our building, our attendance dropped. We averaged 26 on Sunday morning, with an average contribution of $39.99. Indications are that Jan. will show a nice increase.

As we look back over the old year, we find we have had two families to move into town. We began and completed our much needed building. A new record for attendance was established on Nov. 17 with 42 present and a record average attendance during Nov. with 35. Our first meeting in our new building was conducted in Sept. and on Sept. 29 our first "singing" was held with 132 present. Records for the year were: Sunday morning ave. attendance, 21 (first six months, 15; last six months, 27); contribution, $38.02.

I am now meeting with a religious group on Monday evenings for study in a private home. Approximately 14 are attending and indications are that our study will lead to a public discussion of our differences.

We have increased our mailing of religious literature. We take courage and look to the future with hope.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

The new year has gotten off to a good start judging from reports received. I have that feeling that this is going to be a banner year for the church in the Carolinas. Each year of experience adds immeasurably to the success of the next. God will bless all who will use their talents in his kingdom.

Gaffney

MARVIN BRYANT, Reporting: Gaffney has been exceptionally blessed with good meetings in December and January. Leslie G. Thomas presented outstanding lessons in his meeting, Dec. 13-15. J. S. Brown, rural mail carrier and gospel preacher of Montgomery, Ala., gave lessons testifying to his many years in the pulpit. There were six baptisms in this meeting Jan. 8-15. This is a total of 21 since the church began last May.

Gaffney will be the first church in the Carolinas, as far as we know, to have a Campaign for Christ, March 15-25, with about 30 students from David Lipscomb College coming to carry out house to house teaching and preaching services at night. All preachers within a hundred miles are invited to come and participate.

N. Charleston, Durant Ave.

J. C. WATKINS, Reporting: On December 29, 1963, Rhoden Presnell began work with the church here. On that date one was restored and 207 were present for the evening service, the highest since June 16.

Jan. 5 three were baptized into Christ. Our prayer is that this year will continue to be a fruitful one for the Lord.

Camden

MRS. SUZANNE LEE, Reporting: The work in Camden is progressing in an excellent way with brother C. C. Vaughan, our minister of seven years, leading us. Our number is not great, about 35 usually, but we are great in spirit, unity, and zeal. We conduct a bi-monthly radio program over station WACA, 1590 Kc., at 8:15 on Sunday mornings. A card expressing your thoughts about the program would be appreciated.

On December 29th, we had fellowship with other brethren in South Carolina and a few from Georgia. We had a fine attendance, and a spiritual feast. We were privileged recently to hear Brother Price of West Africa, dean of one of the Colleges in Columbia, and only baptized in November, 1963, speak on the subject, "Life Is a Responsibility so Let's Take Inventory."

Union

MILTON PARKER, Reporting: The Union church has come to the end of a very encouraging year. There were 15 baptisms and 30 or more confessions of sin. There were many other accomplishments for which we are grateful, among which are the beginning of a new congregation in Clinton and plans and raising funds for a meeting among the colored people during the summer.

There was a noticeable increase in attendance at all services and an increase of $53.11 per week over 1962 giving us an average contribution of $251.28. The 1964 budget has been set for $307.44 per week with $3,600 designated for mission work in the Carolinas.

In 1963 a training class for the men was conducted with fine attendance and cooperation. No congregation could have responded to leadership of the elders in a greater way then they have here.

Woodruff

OTTIS QUALLS, Reporting: The remodeling of our building has been completed and we were able to meet in it for the first time Dec. 22. F. G. Smith of Spartanburg was the contractor and A. L. McDaniel of Woodleaf did an outstanding job making our pulpit furniture. The building includes five classrooms with space for three more, an office, nursery, baptistery, food and clothing pantry and restrooms.

Since July we have helped five families from our pantry; there have been eight confessions, four restorations, and two baptisms. We have lost nine adults and their children who have either moved away or begun attending in Clinton.

We plan three meetings in 1964; Milton Parker will conduct our first in the spring. Our plans call for a new preacher's house to be completed by July 1, 1964.

This work is supported by the E. Huntsville congregation in Huntsville, Ala. We ask your prayers for the work here.

Aiken

RICHARD WALKER, Reporting: Recently we have had 1 baptism, and 2 restorations. Our budget for 1964 will be $300.00 per week, this amount including payments on a new church building which we hope to construct soon. On January 5th, we had 153 present with the excellent contribution of $840.00.

Columbia, Park Street

RALPH SEIDERS, Reporting: The 3 congregations in Columbia are united in their efforts to teach the lost and restore the fallen to faithfulness. We have begun a series of Personal Work classes. A great deal of interest was show in the presenting of filmstrips on the Dead Sea scrolls and archaelogical findings, substantiating the Bible record. On January 8th we saw a series of color slides of the land and people of Korea, accompanied with a recording of Bro. O. P. Baird, who works with the Korean people.

Clinton

U. A. HALL, Reporting: The Lord's church met for the first time in Clinton in the home of Clarence Hamm on Jan. 5, 1964. Sixteen were present for Bible school, with 18 present for the A. M. worship, and 15 for the P. M. worship. Seventy dollars was contributed. There were 3 responses, 2 baptisms, and one confessing sin.

Please pray for us here. Our address is P. O. Box 646, Clinton, S. C.

Chester

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: Chester showed progress with 16 baptisms in 1963 and an increase in contributions. There are excellent prospects for this new year. Cottage meetings, and a daily radio programs continue to bear fruit for the Lord. Our Spring Meeting will be March 29-April 3, Phillip Black of Gadzen, Alabama, will be our visiting evangelist.

Moore

BOYD WEST, Reporting: Bro. F. G. Smith finished his work here at Moore today. Next Sunday, Jan. 26, Richard Arnet of Hopkinsville, Kentucky will begin work here. Bro. Arnet is a young College graduate, and we are looking forward to his coming here.

He is married to the former Miss Linda Campbell of Greenville, they have a daughter 2 months old.

Duncan

ROY BURGES, Reporting: A daily radio program called "Moments of Meditation" is now being heard at 3:05 P.M. over radio station W.E.A.B., Greer, S. C., 800 on the dial.

The Duncan church of Christ is sponsoring this five minute program for a ninety day period.

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP

At the first meeting of the Board of Directors since the close of the 1963 camping session, C. R. Franks, Jr. of Burlington, N.C. and M. F. Norwood of Marion, N.C., both gospel preachers, were added to the Board of Directors.

The following officers were elected for 1964: Chairman of Board - Sam Norman, Vice-Chairman - Ed Hill, Secretary, Johnny Sewell, Treasurer - Ralph Richardson, Camp Director - H. R. Butler, Assistant Director - Ernest Thigpen, Education Director - Ray Fullerton, Head Counselor - Harold Scott, Handicraft Director - Bill Smith, Canteen Director - Ralph Richardson, Kitchen Director - W. G. Gantt, Dining Hall Director - (First Week) Ed Hill, (Second week) J. B. Whitaker.

MEETING PREACHER AVAILABLE

A faithful gospel preacher, presently working with a congregation in Tennessee, is available for at least one mission meeting in the Carolinas during 1964. His support will be provided by the congregation with which he works. Any congregation wishing further information can be put in touch with this minister by writing: Johnny Sewell, P. O. Box 26212, Derita Branch, Charlotte, N. C., 28213.

Charlotte, Westside

JOHNNY SEWELL, Reporting: Dale Lemmons, Vice-President of the Northeastern Institute for Christian Education, Villanova, Pa., spoke at the Westside building Jan. 17 in the interest of Christian education. A budget of $210 per week has been adopted here for 1964. We have hopes that by the middle of the summer, the new meeting house will be completed. The lot is in the church's name, steps have been taken to incorporate, a necessity for raising funds by a bond issue, arrangements have been made with Security Plan, Inc. for the $60,000 Bond Issue and a meeting with a representative of Paden Construction Co. was held Jan. 18. Plans are to sell the bonds beginning March 1 with construction to start April 1. Present plans call for an auditorium seating 270, a nursery, office, eleven classrooms central heating and air conditioning.

TWO PREACHERS AVAILABLE

Kenneth Willis of Tryon, N. C. writes that a personal friend of his is interested in moving to the Carolinas. He is Marvin Rickett, Moody, Missouri, single, and has his B. A. from Harding College. Contack either Willis or Rickett.

C. W. Bradley of Memphis, Tenn. sent this information: Fred Eaton, c/o W. Claude, Ravenden Springs, Ark., 50 yrs. old, 13 years preaching experience, is interested in working in the Carolinas. He held a meeting in Whiteville, N. C. January, 1961. N. E. Sewell, Jimmy Allen of Harding College, Searcy, Ark., and Sterl Watson of Child Haven are given as references.

LETTER FROM BRADLEY

After about six weeks in bed, I have been gradually getting into the work here. The doctor continually assures me that I should have no difficulty if I will take care and not press too hard. I must continue to have my heart checked regularly.

It is my plan to enter Harding in February. I shall take only a small load each semester, but gradually, I'll be able to work off my Master's.

The award on the article in the Messenger came as a real surprise. Greetings to all over there.

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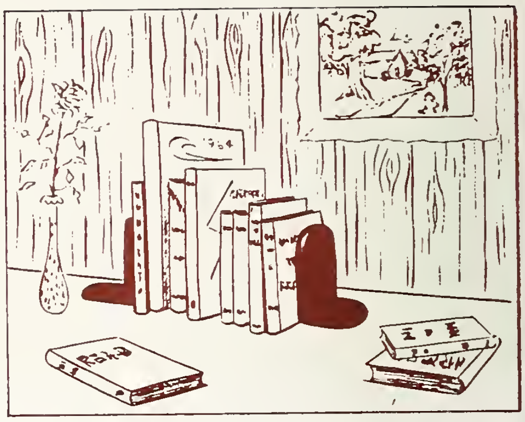

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MARCH, 1964 VOLUME 6, NUMBER 3

EDITORIAL — A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C.

For a number of years there has been an expressed interest in establishing a Christian school in the Carolinas. Soon an article will appear in Carolina Christian written by Hillery Motsinger, a teacher in the public school in Greensboro, N. C., in which he concludes, "The Carolinas need a Christian school and have the resources to provide for one."

When will such a school begin? Being thoroughly convinced of the value of long-range planning, we believe that each year which passes without plans being definitely formed will delay the school's beginning.

The hardest job will not be finding a good location, obtaining teachers and students, nor employing administrative officials. It will be "money."

How much money are we talking about? Perhaps a half million dollars would be adequate, $250,000 for land, buildings, and equipment and $250,000 for an endowment. The first half could be reduced by donations of property, real or personal (not junk). If we had 50 people in the Carolinas who would give $1,000 each for the next several years, a first-rate school could begin in less than a decade.

Almost everyone is interested in a Christian school. How interested are we? Are we interested enough to finance one? We welcome your comments.

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LESLIE G. THOMAS continues to teach a class for all preachers and other interested persons each second Saturday of the month, 10-12 a.m. and 2-4 p.m., in Asheville, N. C. A free baby sitter is provided. The first class was on "Angels" and the second will be "The Binding of Satan and Demonology." The April and May classes will be on "The Holy Spirit."

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Several MANUSCRIPTS have been received for Carolina Pulpit but we do not have one for each subject in the outline. Please remember to complete your manuscript and forward it to us. The quicker the copy is received the sooner the book can be published.

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THANKS to Ralph Seiders of Columbia, S. C. for gathering the material on "Young People" which is in this issue.

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NORTHEAST CHURCH OF CHRIST, Greenville, S. C., has completed the first major goal in the long-range plan. Their building lot was paid for January 26, only 26 days past the target date. Gratitude is expressed to everyone who helped reach this goal.

August has been set as the date for the completion of the new building. The budget at Northeast is set at $110 per week. January average was $124.67.

There have been two responses to the invitation in the past two months.

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All congregations in the Carolinas are invited to have a display at BLUE RIDGE June 22-26. Write for information.

carolina
CHRISTIAN

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C. N. Womack, Adv. Mgr.
Richard Eppley, Bus. Mgr.
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OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

C. H. Woodroof, Columbia, S. C.

"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?"(Ps. 119:9.) This is one of the most important questions that can be asked by young people. The best way to learn is to ask questions. Sometimes parents become provoked at their children because they ask so many questions, yet this is the best way to obtain information. Young people today are asking many questions of their elders. Let us not ignore them, but give them the consideration they deserve. Our answers will determine their destinies. David not only asked the above question but he gave the correct answer: "by taking heed thereto according to thy word." This is the answer to what must I do to be saved, how to live the Christian life, how to overcome temptations, how to always do right. But we cannot take heed according to that word unless we know what the word is. We cannot know what it is unless we study it. David said, "Thy word have I laid up in my heart that I might not sin against thee...I will meditate in thy precepts and have respect unto thy ways." Jesus knew the power of the word of God when he was tempted so he said, "It is written." Paul said the word of God is living and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword. (Heb. 4:12.) "Take the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God."(Eph. 6:7.) "Let the words of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom."(Col. 3:16.) "Study to show thyself approved unto God."(2 Tim. 2:15.) Peter said, "Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (2 Pet. 3:18.) One good way of studying and gaining knowledge is to attend all the Bible classes conducted by the church.

The second thing necessary in your lives in order to always do right is to spend much time in prayer. Have seasons of prayer, regular times of prayer, by yourself and with others. "Ere you left your room this morning, did you think to pray?" Daniel prayed three times a day in Babylon, with his face toward Jerusalem, altho a decree had gone out that no one should pray to any God or man for thirty days, save to the king. (Dan. 6:7-8.) Nothing will give you more strength to do right and overcome temptation than fervent prayer to God. You have access to the throne of God every minute of your life.

The third thing necessary is Christian activity. Engage in good works, do something for God, exercise thyself unto Godliness, do good unto all men. Jesus went about doing good. There are people who are sick, and distressed and poor that need help. This is a wonderful work in which young people can engage. Nothing helps elderly people more than for young folk to pay them some attention.

A consciousness of your responsibility is the fourth thing I would suggest. If you have ability, you have responsibility. Realize who you are; what you are; a child of the king; a citizen in the kingdom of God; a member of the body of Christ; a living stone in the temple of God. Do nothing that would bring shame and dishonor to God or to your parents. Do nothing away from home that you would not do at home. Never do at home or elsewhere what is wrong, or even of doubtful propriety. Your parents and all Christians are interested in you and pray for you, therefore you have a responsibility toward them. It always helps to know that somebody is praying for you, so help answer these prayers.

To make it easier for you to always do right, keep the right kind of company. Evil companionship corrupts good morals. Have as your closest associations boys and girls who are Christians. You are going to marry one from among your associates. Don't run the risk of marrying out of the church. You young people are our greatest assets and treasures. You are worth

(see page 5)

YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE HOME

Ralph R. Seiders, Columbia, S. C.

It is evident that adults are expecting too much of young people when they desire them to find the Christianity they need in the church, when they can find so little of it at home. Surely many young minds are confused when they compare the atmosphere of the church to the atmosphere of the home, and then attempt to determine in their own way of thinking how the adults know where and when to draw the line --- just when do you turn Christianity off and on?

The double standard that exists everywhere in the church must cease to exist if we are to bring forth a generation of Christians who will carry on the function of the Lord's church. We should not expect to convert young minds to the stability of pure Christianity when we say that it is wrong for the young Christian to smoke, and everywhere about them the older brethren are smoking. In many congregations the brethren are very dogmatic about the sin of dancing, but this seems to be reserved for the older brethren while the young people are permitted to dance to gain poise and popularity. Regardless of age, all who have been baptized into the body of the Lord Jesus are subject to the same law. There is no double standard for Christians.

We need to realize the profound effect it has on the thinking of young people when they compare the tone of Daddy's voice while leading a prayer in the assembly, and when talking to a business associate in the office. And what happens to the sweet, understanding voice of Mommie, who does so well teaching her Bible class, when little Johnie spills the milk at the supper table?

How concerned do you suppose your young people will ever become with their attitude toward giving when the only example they see is your example? How do you expect your son and daughter to become dedicated to the assembly of the church when the only example they may ever follow is yours? Do you remember how you have been discussing the brethren in the presence of your children? When they hear you, and then hear a lesson on brotherly love, will the double standard be evident? If you are so free with your criticism of the preacher, how seriously will they take his preaching? If you are always finding fault with the elders, how much respect for their authority do you think your children will develop?

As long as young people are surrounded by adults who say and do not, who will admonish them to hear, believe and obey the things that they so openly ignore, we cannot expect them to become true converts. Having truth is not always sufficient. But having truth living in the lives of others is always a sure way to lead people to Christ.

Could you sit down with your children and say, "I hope that you will always accept the Bible as the Word of God and study it diligently, as I do. I want you to always love the Lord and to serve His church well, as I do. I want you to grow as a child of God, and desire to become a pillar in the church, as I am. When you marry and have children of your own, I want them to hear you pray often, as you hear me do."

Jesus left for us an example that we should follow His steps. He could say, "Go ye and do likewise." I fear that too many of us, as parents, would quake with fear at the thought of advising our young people to "go and do likewise." We can say it when we point them to Christ, and we can say it when we point them to brethren who are following His example, but when they turn and look at us -- when the "go ye and do likewise" could be a milestone in their life -- we must hang our heads in shame and say, "Don't do as I - just do as I say." This is not good advise

(see page 5)

YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION

W. G. Gantt, W. Columbia, S. C.

Suppose you had to build a house in which you would live the rest of your life. You would select the very best materials you could obtain and apply the most highly skilled workmanship so your home would not only meet your basic needs for many years to come but would warrant your pride.

Young people, in a sense you ARE at work building the house in which you'll spend all the years ahead of you. An education is the foundation structure of which your entire future will be built. The thoroughness and care with which you apply yourself in both high school and college studies determine to a considerable extent the quality of workmanship and material in the house you are now building.

Too often young people do not realize the need of an education and begin toying with the idea of giving up school for other things which they consider of greater importance. Constantly such reasons run through the mind of the teenager as: "I am not interested in school; I need a job so I can buy a car; I need some spending money; I will have to go in the army soon as I finish school anyway; I will most likely get married by the time I would graduate from high school."

Listen, young men and women; you need an education regardless of your vocation in life. It will mean an easier task in finding a job; and a better job that will pay you more money. Go ahead and dream about a wonderful life you are going to have, but right NOW do something constructive to help those dreams come true. Complete your high school education with the very best grades possible, and then choose a Christian college for the furtherance of your education. This is very important as statistics taken from Christian homes show that we take a 50-50 gamble that our children will end up out of the church when they attend colleges that lack Christian influence. Thus parents should strongly encourage their children not only to attend college, but one with Christian guidance. One's education is incomplete unless he develops intellectually, morally, physically and spiritually. "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." Follow this example in building your future. Remember, you are building your future now, and only you can answer the question as to the kind you are building.

Boys and girls, think seriously about your future for that is where you are going to spend the rest of your life.

YOUNG PEOPLE (cont'd)

more than all the stocks and bonds and bank accounts in the world. "Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an ensample to them that believe, in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith, in purity." (1 Tim. 4:12.)

. . . AND THE HOME (cont'd)

-- it's not even a good joke.

Christianity can not be left behind in the building when the members go home to live their lives without it until the next appointed time of assembly. The power of Christianity on human beings must be present and visible in the entire life of the adult, if the adult is going to influence the young into putting Christianity on in their lives.

It is true that our sons and daughters may grow up to be strong, devout Christians on their own, but it is a sad commentary if some day parents must admit that their children became sound Christians in spite of them and not because of them.

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"I enjoy your paper and think you are doing a good work with it." - B. C. Goodpasture, Editor, Gospel Advocate.

How To Influence Young People

V. E. Williamson, Columbia, S. C.

NOTE: Bro. Williamson is the colored preacher who preaches at the Heidt and Santee congregation in Columbia, S. C.
This work is in need of financial help.

Influence is of Latin origin: the Latin infinitive influere, which means to flow in. In a broad sense one may ask this question: How may one cause the young people in the world to flow into the church of Christ?

Primordially, no one item of worship, no one thing a Christian does or says is the criterion for influencing young people.

Positive teaching is most essential in bringing the youth of the world into Christ. Positive teaching is sure to provoke questions. When Philip met the Ethcpian eunuch, he asked him a question. Then the interlocution or dialogue began. Ultimately the eunuch was baptized. If a question-answer exchange is executed between prospect and preacher or worker, the results can be most attractive, most persuasive, most rewarding. It is advisable in answering questions to give only pertinent information.

Jesus permitted questions. (John 14 and Matthew 19:16, 20.) When reprimanding the woman for her meretricious act in John 8, along with her accusers Jesus asked and entertained questions. Questions are revealing. It is self-evident that young people are the most inquisitive people in existence. They enjoy going where their spiritual, intellectual, and esthetic needs are met.

Finally, no railing accusations (Jude 1:9), no inept statements are recommended. It takes time, patience, mercy and care to change a raw material from its natural stage to a finished product. So it is in bringing a soul, a lost soul, up until it gains acceptance with God.

GOSPEL MEETING

Church of Christ

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Guest Speaker, T. A. Isaacs

of

New Orleans, La.

Gospel Singing, Sunday, 22nd., 3:00 P. M.

You are invited to all these services

Milton S. Parker, local evangelist

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.

The eyes of the brotherhood are on New York City! The Queens church is working diligently to have all things ready for an extensive program of evangelism in connection with the WORLD'S FAIR which begins April 22, 1964. A mezzanine area has been added to the Exhibit Building, thus increasing the floor space by one half. To date over $200,000 have been contributed to this undertaking. In MANHATTEN the church is poised to start construction of their Madison Avenue building as soon as $175,000 balance on a half-million dollar building fund is raised. They have a debt free site and a building fund moving upward from $325,000. The proposed building will seat 1,000, have an entire floor of Bible class rooms, more class rooms in the basement and, above the Bible class floor, two residences for ministers and five rooms to be used by missionaries going and returning from the field. The BAY SHORE congregation on Long Island, formed when 81 families moved from eight states during 1963, has begun construction on a church building which will cost $230,000.

Campaigns for Christ, at home and abroad, are much in the news. The elders of the VANDELIA VILLAGE church, Lubbock, Texas, has undertaken to conduct Campaigns for Christ on a permanent basis, guaranteeing all expenses incurred and extending an invitation to all congregations and individuals to have fellowship with them. More than 40 requests have already been received for campaigns, the first one of which is scheduled for the summer of 1964. Already $160,000 have been donated to this work. Campaigns in the past have cost from $30,000 to $60,000 depending upon the distance and area. The fact that five to 10 years of work will be accomplished in each campaign covering a 30 day period and using 30 to 40 workers, means that they are economical and serve to give the cause of Christ impetus.

In addition to the work planned by the Vandelia congregation, a five-night televised gospel meeting is slated for June 22-26 over KXII-TV in Ardmore, Okla., the telecasts originating from the Maxwell Avenue church in Ardmore.

A second campaign will be conducted in GLASGOW, SCOTLAND in August, 1964. Fred B. Walker will again do the preaching and Nashville's Joywood congregation will supervise the campaign. The greater TULSA area churches of Christ are planning an area-wide gospel meeting in the new Civic Center, April 12-19. The Center will seat 10,000 and Leroy Brownlow will preach. Brethren have signed a contract for the DALLAS MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM for a 15 night area-wide evangelistic campaign July 26-August 9. The auditorium will seat 10,000 and the planners hope to see the building filled each night. Twenty-five congregations have already committed themselves for $31,000 to this effort. Jimmy Allen, who will preach in the Dallas meeting, will also speak in a gospel meeting in SPRINGDALE, ARK. June 14-21 where a 12,000 seat stadium has been secured.

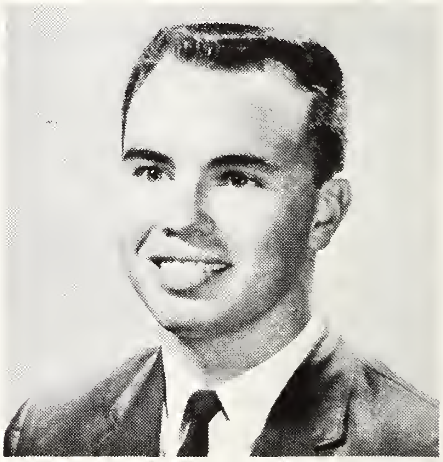
Construction on the new campus of ALABAMA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, Montgomery, will begin early in 1964. Alabama Christian College opened in Sept., 1942 with four college and 19 high school students. For the last several years the enrollment has numbered more than 300. The school is now engaged in a program to raise one million dollars within the next few months for construction purposes. Otis Gatewood has resigned as President of MICHIGAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE. The Vice-President, Lucian Palmer, has been appointed Acting President.

CAROLINA LECTURESHIP, ROCKINGHAM, N. C.

BILL G. SMITH is preaching for the congregation in Rockingham, N. C. He moved there December 5, 1963. He has been preaching in the Carolinas since June, 1955.

WAYNE POUCHER of McLean, Virginia was the originator and daily speaker of the program, "Life Line," from its beginning in 1958 until May 5, 1963. He now has the daily program, "Wayne Poucher from Washington."

BURL CURTIS of Greenville, S. C. has been preaching in that city since August, 1953. He is the director of the Greenville Singers who will present a 30 minute religious program at the dinner Thursday night.



RAY FULLERTON of Goldsboro, N. C. is supported by the College church in Abilene, Texas. He has served as minister at Goldsboro since the beginning of the congregation in 1957. He will teach a daily class on "Teacher Training."

MARGARET FULLERTON of Goldsboro is the wife of Ray. She is a capable worker for the Lord and will have a daily class for the ladies.

RICHARD WALKER of Aiken, S. C. is new in the Carolinas having moved here in 1963. He will conduct a singing school Monday through Friday night.

NEW RADIO PROGRAM

OVER W. E. A. B., GREER, SOUTH CAROLINA - 800 on your dial - daily at 3:05 p. m.
ROY BURGESS, Speaker. Sponsored by the CHURCH OF CHRIST, Duncan, S. C.
Please tune in! Write a card if you hear this program.

LECTURESHIP PROGRAM

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 1013 Wild Cherry Lane, Rockingham, N.C.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Registration - Monday
Teacher training - R. Fullerton - Tuesday-Firday - 1:10 p.m.
Ladies' class - M. Fullerton - Tuesday-Friday - 2:20 p.m.
Reports - Korea, Phillipines, Scotland, Holy Land - 4:30 p.m.
Panel discussion - Youth, Personal work, Integration - 3:30 p. m.
Singing class - R. Walker - Tuesday, Wed., Thurs.-6:00 p.m.
Lectureship dinner - High School cafeteria - Thurs. - 6: p.m.
Greenville Singers - 30 minutes of singing - Thurs. - 6:30 p.m.
Reports - Firday - Carolina Christian (9:10 a.m.) - Blue Ridge (9:40 a.m.)
Carolina Bible Camp (10:20 a.m.)

THEMES - Tuesday - "Evidences"

"God Is." - C. E. Mannon - 9:10 a.m.
"Christ Is." - Buford Holt - 9:40 a.m.
"The Holy Spirit Is." - Joe Costilow - 10:20 a.m.
"The Bible-God's Word." - Noyles Sewell - 10:50 a.m.
"The Church Is." - J. H. Blackman - 11:30 a.m.
"Heaven Is." - Wayne Altman - 2:20 p.m.
"Hell Is." - Jesse Melton - 2:50 p.m.

Wednesday - "God's Purpose."

"In Creation." - Ralph Seiders - 9:10 a.m.
"In Man." - Rhoden Presnell - 9:40 a.m.
"In The Home." - M. F. Norwood - 10:20 a.m.
"In The Old Testament." - Ernest Thigpen - 10:50 a.m.
"In Christ." - Jerry Richardson - 11:30 a.m.
"In The Church." - Ralph Brashears - 2:20 p.m.
"In Discipline." - William Love - 2:50 pm.

Thursday - "Limitations."

"Elders, Deacons." - Jesse Condra - 9:10 a.m.
"Preachers, Teachers." - G. W. Childs - 9:40 a.m.
"Women." - Burl Curtis - 10:20 a.m.
"In Worship." - Richard Harp - 10:50 a.m.
"In Co-operative Efforts." - Johnny Sewell - 11:30 a.m.
"In Benevolence." - Carl Lancaster - 2:20 p.m.
"Marriage, Divorce, Remarriage." Claude Pharr - 2:50 p.m.

NIGHT LECTURES - Theme, "God." - 8:10 p. m. except Thursday, 8:40 p.m.

"The Power of God." - Bill Shelton
"The Goodness of God." - J. B. Whitaker
"The Severity of God." - Frank Milton
"Where Is God." - Wayne Poucher
"Youth and God." - Richard Walker

TWO ADDITIONAL LECTURES - Fri.-"Growing Old"-W. Neal-"Human Suffering."-
Harold Scott.

EVANGELISM IN THE CAROLINAS

A. R. Holton, Abilene, Texas

Since the death of J. W. Brents, there has been an increased interest in evangelistic meetings in the Carolinas. A number of individuals and churches over the nation, I am sure, can be interested in supporting evangelistic meetings. All of the churches in the Carolinas should begin now to look out a place where they can sponsor evangelistic services. If this is made known, I think there will be a ready response upon the part of churches throughout the nation.

Brother Leslie G. Thomas of Asheville, N. C. has expressed a willingness to help in finding places where an evangelistic meeting would do much good. Also helping in this same way would be Ed Sewell of Kinston, N. C. Ray Fullerton of Goldsboro is also interested in this work, and I am sure there are many places in North and South Carolina where a meeting would do good, and I am sure that there are preachers over the brotherhood who would like to give some time in this kind of effort.

Brother J. W. Brents was interested, as all of us know, in the establishment of churches in North and South Carolina. It seems to me that it would be a great thing to further the memory of J. W. Brents by joining together in a great evangelistic program for the Carolinas.

Those interested please write to Burl Curtis, c/o Carolina Christian, P. O. Box 5423, Station B., Greenville, S. C. Bro. Curtis will be glad to notify the brethren mentioned above and do what he can to get this work going.

I have many happy memories in connection with the churches in North and South Carolina.

CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP

The 1964 Carolina Bible Camp will be in session for two weeks at Camp Hanes near Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The beginning date is August 9.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors, Harold Scott resigned as Chief Counselor because of his attending a special class on Missions at Harding College in Searcy, Arkansas. He plans to enter mission work in New Zealand in 1965. Replacing him as Chief Counselor will be Ernest Thigpen. Mary Thigpen will be Chief Girl's Counselor.

In view of the fact that Ray Fullerton is to be in Australia five weeks on a missionary campaign, Joe Costilow has been invited by the Board of Directors to serve as Educational Director for this year's camp. C. R. Franks will be the Athletic Director, and Sam Norman will be the Assistant Director.

PREACHER WANTED

B. D. BARNETT, Reporting: The Seneca, South Carolina congregation is seeking a minister for local work. The congregation has a debt-free building adequate for considerable future numerical growth.

The church prefers a full-time evangelist but would consider a part-time worker. Seneca is nine miles from Clemson College, the land grant college of South Carolina. This proximity to Clemson suggests the possibility of locating a minister who might wish to study or teach at the college. The M.S., M.A. and PH.D. degrees are offered in a number of fields.

Interested persons should contact B. D. Barnett, 402 Skyview Drive, Clemson, S. C.

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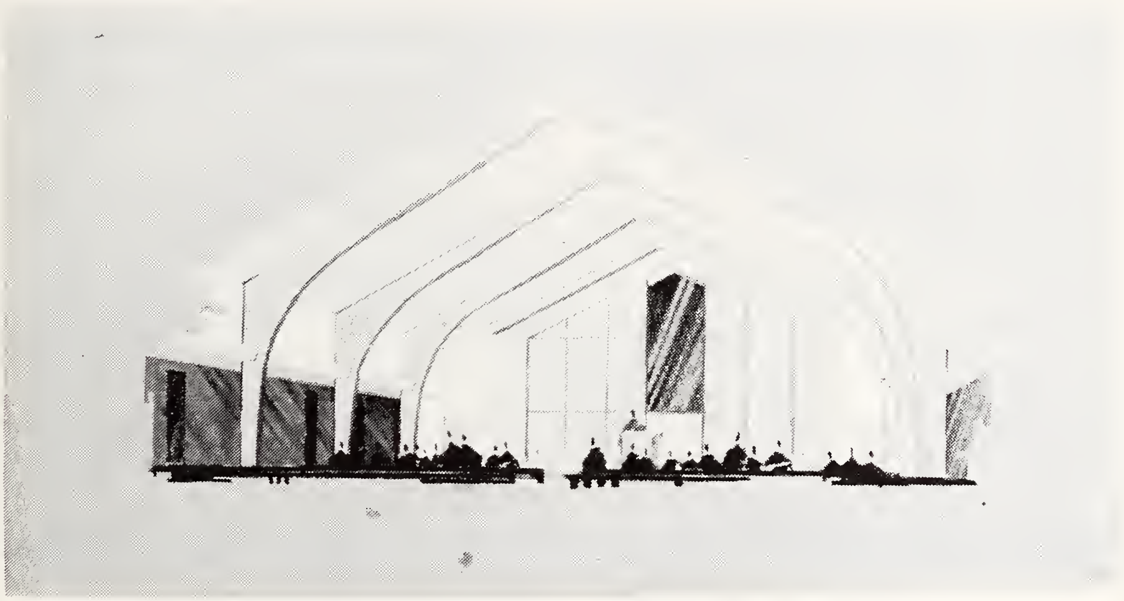

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150 Lancaster St., Chester, S. C.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

On Feb. 24, W. Herman Neill will assume work with the Watts Street congregation in Durham, N. C. We welcome Bro. and Sis. Neill from Henderson, W. Va. where they have labored for the past three years and eight months. We trust that the coming of Bro. Neill will mean increased attendance and growth to the Durham work.

A progress report was received from M. F. Norwood at Marion, N. C. Following is a portion of that report: The church in Marion began 1963 with 34 active members, and a proposed budget of $87.50 per week. During the year eight classes were conducted on Sunday morning and five on Wednesday night. Three were baptized, two restored and six placed membership. Record for the year: Sunday Bible study 87, Sunday morning 99, Sunday night 66, Wednesday Bible study 56. A record contribution of $127.32 was made Oct. 20, 1963. Meetings during the year were conducted by Myron Keith of Lebanon, Tenn. and E. F. Bullington of Athens, Ala.

Plans for 1964 call for a training series on the use of film strips, more cottage meetings, a Fogarty Brothers tent meeting May 24, Vacation Bible School, mission meeting at Old Fort, Burnsville, Newland, Bakersville, and Spruce Pine; a fall meeting in Marion; continuation of both radio programs and a $100 per week local budget.

Sunday, Feb. 9, 23 were restored, five were baptized, and five Christians identified themselves with the Plaza church in Charlotte. To quote from the Plaza bulletin, "The spirit of this church is the best ever. Nothing could have done more to encourage me (Bro. Kidwell) than the wonderful reception of the lessons Sunday. Almost to a man, the membership of the Plaza came by with wonderful words of encouragement."

Woodleaf, Corinth

RONNIE L. ULREY, Reporting: The first of Feb. I began my sixth month with this church. We have had three baptism and two restorations. We moved into our new building Jan. 5, with a special dedication service and had 139 present. Guest speakers were Ottis Qualls of Woodruff, S. C., Walter Neal of Lexington, N. C. (both former ministers here) and J. H. Blackman of Salisbury. J. B. Whitaker of Mocksville led the singing.

Attendance has averaged about 95 per Sunday and 45 for mid-week Bible study. We have only 69 members on the roll. Contributions averaged about $90.00 per week for the last four months of 1963 and over $100.00 per week in January.

Our new building is not completely finished. It is to have five classrooms, baptistery and preacher's study. The men of the church donated almost all the labor.

The church is beginning to have vision and you will be hearing of its good works. It is a joy to work where there is harmony and cooperation among brethren.

Greensboro, Wendover Ave.

PAUL SIKES, Reporting: Three new elders were ordained at Wendover Avenue Jan. 12. They were Jobe P. Doty, Kenneth R. Durham and James C. Tyner. Bro. Durham served as an elder at the Plaza church in Charlotte prior to moving to Greensboro. Bro. Doty has been one of our deacons until this new appointment. Bro. Tyner served as an elder for this congregation prior to his moving to Kinston, N. C.

Bro. Harold M. Messick was appointed to serve with our deacons. Our other elders are Harry B. Clements and P. D. Kirby. Our other deacons are Raymond A.

Brown, A. Lincoln Gantt, W. Clyde Johnson, G. S. (Bill) Melton, Dallas A. Smith and Edward J. Taylor.

Our former preacher's residence was used for classrooms for the first time Dec. 22. A new preacher's residence has been purchased at 2304 Hathaway Drive.

Cottage meeting classes are conducted regularly. A summary of Sunday's sermon appears in the Greensboro Daily News each Monday evening.

Marion

M. F. NORWOOD, Reporting: Jan. 10, a man in his middle 60's was baptized at the close of lesson four of the Jule Miller film strips. We have requests for three cottage meetings in Marion, three in Spruce Pine, two in Old Fort, and one in Bakersville. Presently we have six cottage meetings.

May 24-June 14 is our tent evangelistic campaign with Fogarty and Bain as speakers. We need workers for this as well as the week before. If anyone would like to help us in this, please write me stating which week.

Four have recently moved bringing our membership down to 38.

Whiteville

VIRGIL L. HALE, Reporting: I am beginning my third year with the congregation in Whiteville. The Lord has blessed us in so many ways during the past two years, and we are so grateful to Him. This year has gotten off to a good start with one baptism and one restoration during January.

Some encouraging cottage meetings are in progress, and prospects for more growth are good.

Jan. 13-18, I spoke on the radio for 15 minutes each day in Tabor City, N. C. This is the third time I have had this opportunity. It is free and is good advertising for the church.

Our attendance during Jan. was not as good as it has been, but sickness took a toll here, as I am sure it did most everywhere. Our largest attendance was 91 for Sunday morning, 70 on Sunday evening, and 59 on Wednesday evening. The largest contribution was $97.62. Remember our efforts in your prayers.

Kingston

NOYLES E. SEWELL, Reporting: New records were set this week with 120 in Bible study and 124 in worship. Two were baptized.

Roanoke Rapids

BOB HERNDON, Reporting: My family and I moved here from Shelby the first of Jan. Two groups of Christians had been meeting but were not aware of each other. These two groups plus my family have formed the nucleus of the present congregation.

We have rented a dwelling at 130 Williams St. in Roanoke Rapids to use as our meeting place. We have nine members and an attendance of about 16. A Bible Correspondence Course is being offered through newspaper ads.

I am preaching for the group but the services of other men will also be used. Our services are: Sunday 10, 11, 6; Thursday 7. Visit with us.

Wilmington

HOWARD WINTERS, Reporting: The church in wilmington has made some very encouraging moves forward. We have increased our radio program to a half hour. Also, this same station began carrying the Herald of Truth as a public service on Feb. 16. The Herald of Truth is from 8:00 to 8:30 each Sunday morning and the local program is from 8:30 to 9:00. This means that a full hour of preaching devoted to the restoration of primitive Christianity will be heard each week. Attendance and contribution have sharply increased in the past month. On Feb. 9 we had 51 for Bible study and 57 for morning worship. This represented the largest local attendance since the "mass exodus" last year. Our number has been increased also by a few members moving to Wilmington. We are still convinced, now more than ever, that the church here is ON ITS WAY UP.

Charlotte, Plaza

PAUL KIDWELL, Reporting: The new year is well begun at the Plaza. Our budget was set for $450.00 per week. As of Feb. 9, we are averaging $459.70. So far this year we have had 31 responses, not including those who have placed membership with us. Seven baptisms and 24 restorations have caused us to share our joy with the angels in heaven. $170 per month has been budgeted for mission work. We look forward to the day when one half of our budget will be mission work and benevolence. The spirit in this church is the finest in years. There is no room at the Plaza for the contentious critic. Our eyes are forward and upward.

Rockingham

PATRICIA S. DAWKINS, Reporting: We have good news this month. Changes are being made rapidly as a result of the hard work by Bill G. Smith. One has put on Christ and our attendance is rapidly increasing. Wednesday, Jan. 15 we broke our goal of 85 with 92 present. Our goal now is 100.

Many plans and much hard work is being put forth in preparation for the lectures in April. We hope all will plan to attend.

Sunday evening, Feb. 2, we had a very special treat when three brethren of the congregation gave a very inspiring and thoughtful sermon on giving.

Gastonia, Union Road

T. C. GALLOWAY, Reporting: The Union Road church continues to move forward. Attendance and contributions are still improving. Interest and zeal are at an all time high. We pray this will increase even further when Bro. Gray of Clarksburg, W. Va begins work here on May 17.

Bro. Gray has consented to preach in a protracted meeting for us after his arrival in the spring.

When visiting Gastonia, worship with us at 500 Union Road.

Aberdeen

RAY D. WINN, Reporting: We began work here the first of the year. The Aberdeen church had been without a minister for a little more than two years.

Since the first of the year we have had one baptism and two restorations. The attendance at all services had increased considerably. Contribution has more than doubled. The final payment was made on our building in December. We are now looking toward making some changes and additions in the building to add to our facilities.

Bryson City

CARLTON W. ELKINS, Reporting: Our preacher, Carlton Elkins, has been ill since mid-December and had major surgery Jan. 20. Bro. Joe Buchanan of the Sylva congregation has been preaching for us on Sunday and the preacher's son, Joe, has been conducting Wed. night Bible class. Bro. Elkins is recuperating nicely and hopes to be preaching again soon. Please note the change in our P. O. Box to 329.

Valdese

MADELINE C. BROWN, Reporting: The first Sunday in Feb. Jerry Senn began as our regular minister.

Our ladies' Bible class meets on the first and third Tuesday nights. Each meeting consists of a 45 minute lesson and a 45 minute work session. The first project is the redecorating of the class rooms. A teacher training session is to be next.

March 8, 1964, the singing is to be at Lenoir. Interest there has greatly increased since Bro. Claude Pharr began as their regular minister.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

News from the churches was meager for Feb. Those who reported had good things to tell. I hope that every congregation will find time to give an occassional report to the Carolina Christian.

Chester

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: The church in Chester had two added by baptism in Jan. The contribution has climbed very noticeably in the last two months. Phillip Black of Gadsden, Alabama will be with us in our spring meeting, March 29-April 3.

Chester is looking for a minister to work with it by June 1st. Brother Bolick will be leaving at that time after having worked here for four years. All who are interested in the work here are invited to contact the church as soon as possible.

Greenville, Edgewood Drive

ERNEST THIGPEN, Reporting: The following figures give a report of last year's work at Edgewood. Fifteen were baptized, 16 either confessed wrong or were restored to fellowship, and seven placed membership. The average weekly attendance was as follows: Bible study, 111; morning worship, 141; evening wroship, 80; and midweek service, 74. Giving averaged $215.53 per week. A monthly teacher's meeting was held, and a monthly social and class were conducted for teen-agers. A special contribution was given by the members to purchase 155 new song books. We paid almost $3000.00 on our building debt. We gave $500.00 to mission work.

One of the projects we are working on for this year is increased attendance. Special efforts are being made to bring the attendance at all services closer to the number attending the Sunday morning worship.

Aiken

RICHARD WALKER, Reporting: In Jan. the church completed its transaction for 4.41 acres in an excellent location. We are presently studying plans for the new building.

In Jan. we set a new record average attendance of 160 at monring worship. Contribution averaged $429. This average includes some special contributions for our building program, but our regular contribution was well over our budget of $300. Since the last Sunday in Dec. we have had five restorations. In our Jan. business meeting some 12 committees were appointed to carry out specific works. A ladies' Bible class and men's training class began this month.

N. Charleston, Durant Ave.

J. C. WATKINS, Reporting: Our motto for this year is: "Doing more in '64." We trust that each of us will keep this motto in mind and strive to do more in all phases of the Lord's work this year.

Attendance goals have been set for the Sunday morning and Wednesday evening Bible study. Wednesday, Jan. 22, 198 were present; only two short of our goal of 200. Feb. 2, 248 were present for Bible study; only two short of our goal of 250. On that day 319 were present for morning worship and 206 for evening worship.

Brother Rhoden Presnell and his fine family are doing an excellent work here.

Gaffney

MARVIN BRYANT, Reporting: The Gaffney church will make a concerted effort to win souls in a special campaign March 15-25. About 30 David Lipscomb students, experienced in personal work, will come and help carry on a house to house campaign. All preachers and trained personal workers within a 100 mile radius are invited to help one day or several if possible.

The church began in York, S. C., the first of February, meeting in the home of Brother A. B. Pittman. There are three families there. A 15 minute radio program, 9-9:15 A.M., is conducted seven days a week.

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Union

MILTON S. PARKER, Reporting: Since the first of the year one has been baptized and two restored. We are having the best attendance at the night services in the history of this congregation, thanks to a wonderful eldership.

T. A. Isaacs will be with us for a gospel meeting March 22-29, and Roy Burgess will be with us in the fall.

YOUR HELP NEEDED: One of the youngest congregations in South Carolina is the one in Clinton. This congregation had its beginning on the first of January this year. Their record for January is excellent with an average Sunday morning attendance of 18 and average contribution of $66.00. Two were baptized and two restored.

These brethren are willing to work and sacrifice for the cause of Christ. Will you help in this promising and deserving work? Send contributions to: Church of Christ, P. O. Box 64, Union, S. C., marked for building fund or preacher's salary.

Clinton

U. A. HALL, Reporting: The church in Clinton purchased a six room house with a large hall on an acre lot in a very desirable location in the city of Clinton. We can meet in the house now with a minimum of effort. We could never have accomplished this without the full support of the elders and the church at Union, S.C. We need the prayers and financial help of everyone that loves the cause of Christ in the Carolinas. We now number only twelve but we hope to change that to hundreds before long. With your help we can. We are depending on you. Do not let us down.

Greenville, Augusta Road

CARL LANCASTER, Reporting: A visitation program was started in January. Training sessions were held. Tapes of M. F. McKnight's lectures were used. Members are now contacting absentees each week and also make a series of visits to the homes of visitors. Several are now studying lessons on how to conduct cottage Bible classes.

Attendance was 134 on Feb. 9. Another family of active Christians has moved into the area. Seven placed membership during February.

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APRIL. 1964 VOLUME 6, NUMBER 4

EDITORIAL - - THE CHURCH

Bob Rigdon, Sylva, N. C.*

When I consider the wonderful theme of the church my mind goes back to the years of 1949-50 when I first came in contact with the church I read of in the New Testament.

I am grateful that the member who brought it to my attention was one who was very kind in his approach yet one who stood firmly for what God teaches in His Holy Word. This member was not argumentative. He simply stated what the Bible taught, read it to me, and then left it for my consideration with an encouragement to make the Bible my authority. He never tried to "cram it down my throat." He never lost his temper even though I did lose mine sometimes.

There are three points which I consider very important and timely:

(1) The church is not a building. The word "church" in the Bible refers to the people who have obeyed Christ and to their assembly. This idea is most confusing to non-members. Yet this is essential if they are going to understand the Bible and the church in the Bible. Many members, even preachers, add to this confusion by refering to the place of assembly as the church. Please read Acts 2:36-47, Romans 16:5, I Corinthians 11:22 (assembly).

It is no wonder that many outsiders never return when they hear the necessity of the church preached and all they have in their mind is a building of wood or concrete.

(2) The church does not save anyone—the church is the saved. There is only one Savior and that is Jesus Christ (I Timothy 2:5). He is the Savior of those who obey Him. (Hebrews 5:9.) Those who obey him are the church. They are not saved and then become members of the church. When people obey Christ they are saved--they are then members of His church. (Acts 2:36-47.) The same obedience which saves a person also makes him a member of the church of Christ. Please read also Acts 20:28 and Ephesians 5:23-33.

(3) The words "church" and "kingdom" are used interchangeably many times in the Bible. But, it is also necessary to realize that the word "kingdom" is used many times as referring only to Heaven. The following verses use the word "kingdom" as meaning the same as "church" and as being in force. (Colossians 1:13, Revelation 1:9 and others.) In this sense the kingdom had its beginning on the day of Pentecost as recorded in Acts 2.

However, there are many verses which use the word "kingdom" as referring only to heaven. (II Timothy 4:18, Acts 14:22, I Corinthians 6:9, 10, I Corinthians 15:50, Matthew 25:34, 2 Peter 1:11 etc.) It is essential that when you read your Bible you determine from the context which meaning of the word "kingdom" is intended.

I thank God for those who have gone before me, men like Don Shultz, the one referred to above, who have sacrificed and who have stood firm and yet who stood in love for the truth of God's Word and the church we read of in the New Testament.

carolina
CHRISTIAN

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***Guest Editor**

LOOKING FOR A KINGDOM

Tom Ledbetter, Andrews, N. C.

The beginning of the church in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2) was probably the least recognized but greatest event the world had known. The Jews had longed for the coming of a messiah because of oppression at the hands of other people, but they were looking for an earthly king to set up a throne in Jerusalem and rule the world. We know that even the apostles held this mistaken view. (Acts 1:6.)

The Jews based their ideas of the coming kingdom on prophecies spoken by several Old Testament writers. Moses had said that God would raise up a prophet like unto him. (Deuteronomy 18:15, 18, 19.) Isaiah had said that the word of the Lord would go forth from Jerusalem instead of from Mt. Sinai (Isa. 2:2-4), and he spoke of what is known as the "suffering servant" who would be slain for the wickedness of others (c 53).

Daniel tells more about the specific time of the coming of the kingdom in his interpretation of the dream of Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonian ruler. (Daniel 2.) Daniel interpreted the vision of the great image made of different kinds of matter to represent various kingdoms that would rule the world. He said the head of gold represented the kingdom of Babylon. An inferior kingdom that would follow was represented by the breast and arms of silver, another by the belly and thighs of brass, and a fourth by the legs of iron with feet of iron and clay. Daniel said that during the days of these kings the God of heaven would set up a kingdom that would be greater than all others and would never be destroyed.

We can know from secular history what these kingdoms were and the period of their rule. The first, of course, was the Babylonian which ruled from 606 B. C. to 536 B. C., the second was the Persian or Medo-Persian from 536 B. C. to 332 B. C., the third was the Greek or Macedonian from 331 B. C. to 146 B. C., and the fourth was the Roman Empire which ruled from 146 B. C. to 400 A. D.

The prophecy concerning the kingdom God would build began to be fulfilled with the birth of Christ in the year 4 B. C. according to our means of setting the date. We know that Herod the Great was king when the great massacre of children occurred in an effort to kill Christ, and we know that Herod died in 4 B. C. so Christ was born about that time. Another fact in connection with this date was an eclipse of the moon that happened just before the death of Herod according to Josephus, the Jewish historian, which occurred in 4 B.C.

The church, however, was still in the future. John the Baptist came to prepare the way for the Lord because the kingdom was at hand or nearby. (Matthew 3:2.) Christ began His personal ministry at about the age of thirty or in the year 26 A. D. He also spoke of the church as being in the future but close by. He told the people that some of them would be living when the kingdom would come with power (Mark 9:1), promised, "I will build my church," and gave the keys to allow admittance to the kingdom to Peter and the other apostles. (Matthew 16:18, 19; 18:18.)

The power came as it had been promised on the Day of Pentecost about 30 A. D. to the apostles in Jerusalem, and they preached the terms of membership in the kingdom. The people who listened and obeyed the terms were added to the church by the Lord. (Acts 2.) Previously the church had been spoken of as being in the future, but from this point on as in existence.

The church or kingdom came into being on the earth in the days of the Roman Empire about the year 30 A. D. in the city of Jerusalem with Jews as its first members. Any church that does not claim such a foundation pertaining to time, place, and persons is not the church of the Bible. This church was destined to spread from Jerusalem into all the world as an everlasting kingdom greater than any man could devise.

CHRIST AND THE CHURCH

Duane Ginn, Franklin, N. C.

When Saul of Tarsus had his vision on the road to Damascus, he heard the Lord ask, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" (Acts 9:4.) Later this same man, as an apostle of Christ, wrote to the churches of Galatia, "For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how beyond measure I persecuted the church of God and wasted it." (Galations 1:13.) Jesus said that he was persecuting Him. Paul saw it as persecuting the church and wasting it. The application is apparant. As a persecutor of Christ, Saul was also a persecutor of the church. To waste Christ was to waste the church. This illustrates how the inspired writer saw the close relationship of Christ to the church and the church to Christ.

The two things that the New Testament speaks most about are Christ and the church. The gospel writers tell of the life of the Lord; and, also his solemn promise to build his church. (Matt. 16:18.) When they leave off, the book of Acts continues with a history of the church and its spread throughout the world. The epistles, which follow, are almost completely devoted to edifying, teaching, and encouraging the varying congregations of the Lord's church which Paul and others established. The early Christian knew that he was a follower of Christ. But, he also knew the relationship that Christ had to the church. He saw Christ and the church in the same light. The inspired writers, especially Paul, taught him to do so.

In Matthew 16 Jesus said that he would build his church. This is confirmed later; for the scripture says that the very first converts were "added to the church." (Acts 2:47.) And it was the Lord himself who did the adding. Christ has the power of admission. However, there is more of a relationship than just as founder. The passage which so clearly defines, not only his kinship, but also Jesus' great love for the church is found in Acts 20:28. As Paul was admonishing the elders of Ephesus, he told them, ". . . Feed the church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood." Not only is He founder of the church, but he paid the supreme price for it. Is it no wonder, then, that Paul could see no difference between persecuting the church or Christ? How he esteemed one was also how he esteemed the other. Yet, the religious world, as a whole, would consider the church as one of the non-essential elements of Christianity. It would seem, to this writer, that his church would be as important as the price that was paid for it--His blood. That His blood is essential is indisputable. Therefore, ought not the value of the item match the price paid for it? He purchased it. It belongs to Christ. It is the church of Christ. And, for this very reason it is essential.

However, this is not all. Paul further illustrates the keen relationship that Jesus has to the church. It is the body of Christ, and he is its head. (Eph. 1:22, 23.) Also, he is the saviour of that body, the church. (Eph. 5:23.) This is compatable with the fact that the blood of Christ, the purchase price, was shed for our redemption. (Eph. 1:7.) And he loved it so much that "he gave himself for it." (Eph. 5:25.) Thus, the church is subject to but one--Christ Jesus. (Eph. 5:24.) To be sure, these terms and descriptions are used in an allegorical sense. But the inspired writer had a reason for using them. They give a clear picture of what the church is to Christ and what Christ is to the church. They are used to point out a beautiful truth. Namely, Christ and His church are inseparable. If the church is all of this mentioned above, then Paul was "wasting" the church and, at the same time, persecuting Christ. He drew no line of demarcation between the church and Christ.

The one thing that all followers of Christ want to do is serve Him. The way in which

(see page 9)

A NAMELESS INSTITUTION

Carlton W. Elkins, Bryson City, N. C.

While in conversation with a local man, we were discussing those that confuse the church of Christ with other religious groups. He made the remark, "Well, for that reason alone, wouldn't it be a good idea to change the name of the church?" My reply was that the church we read about in the Bible, and which God wants us to be members of, does not have a name. It is simply "the church" belonging to Christ. Any church that has a name, then that name must be the product of man, thus a denomination, and not the church described in God's word. I then attempted to explain what I meant by the church being a nameless institution.

The statements in the New Testament, "the churches of Christ," "the church of God," and others, were not used for the name of the church, but to show ownership. This church belongs to Christ. It belongs to Him because He had promised that He would build His church, (Matthew 16:18), and becuase He "purchased it with his own precious blood." (Acts 20:28), but this was not its name. It was simply "the church" belonging to Christ.

The word "church" is from the Greek "ekklasia," meaning the called out. When Jesus said, "I will build my church," He meant that assembly of people who have been called out of the world by the good news that Christ has obtained our salvation, and those that have obeyed the commands of that gospel, as directed by Christ Himself.

The church is presented in the scriptures by several analogies, but none of these offer a name for the church, but merely describes the church, that belongs to Christ.

The church is referred to as a community of believers gathered by God through obedience to His Son, Jesus Christ. The church is identified as the "Israel of God." Paul, writing to the congregations located in the region of Galatia said, "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them and mercy, and upon the Israel of God." (Galatians 6:16.) Still, we do not have a name given the church.

Another description of the church is that body of persons united with a common purpose, which God had chosen for His own possession, as Paul wrote to the church located in Corinth, "And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." (2 Corinthians 6:16.) The Apostle Peter wrote, "But ye (that is Christians, members of the church) are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." (1 Peter 2:9.)

The church is the group of people who have obeyed the gospel of Christ and are held together by their remembrance of deliverance from sin by the suffering of Christ on Calvary's tree. Paul writes to Titus, "Who (Christ) gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." (Titus 2:14.)

Several times the church is spoken of in the New Testament as a company of brothers. In I Corinthians Paul states, "I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren?" Peter refers to the church as a brotherhood. "Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king." (1 Peter 2:17.) In Romans 8:17, we read, "And if children, then heirs, heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ..." To be the brother of Christ, on His terms, is to be a fellow heir with Him of God's kingdom. It is a like obedience to the Father's will, which produces an interdependence of the life of the elder Son, Jesus, and His many brethren. Although brothers of

Christ, as members of His church, the church does not have a name.

Another familial relationship is the church as the bride of Christ. In Revelation 19:7-9 we read, "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready...And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb." The Apostle Paul wrote of the Corinthian congregation having been betrothed to Christ as a bride, and of this bride as having been deceived by the serpent like Eve. "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh, preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him." (2 Corinthians 11:2-4.)

In the Pauline letters the church is also referred to, as "one body in Christ." In Romans 12:5 we find this statement by the inspired apostle: "So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." He describes the church in Ephesians 1:22, 23, as the body of Christ: "And hath put all things under his (Christ) feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all." Those that are members of His church are "in him," and He is "in them" for Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me..." (Galatians 2:20.) Those that are "in Christ," thus "in his body, the church," are baptized "into him." Paul related, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body..." (1 Corinthians 12:13.) All of these elements are included in the description of the church as the body of Christ, yet, the church has not been given a name, other than being the body, the church of (belonging to) Christ.

The church is also described by several agricultural analogies. The church of Christ is compared to God's plantation or field. (1 Corinthinas 3:5-9.) There is a comparison of the people of God to the vineyard. In the gospel account by John we see the symbol of Jesus as the vine, with the branches dependent upon Him and with God treating various branches (or members of the vine, of the church), by pruning and purging in order to produce greater fruitfulness. (John 15:1-7.) Another agricultural analogy is the description of the Lord's church as a flock. (Acts 20:28.) Jesus Christ is the "great shepherd of the sheep." (Hebrews 13:20.) Christ is often described as Lamb as well as Shepherd. (John 1:29.) The imagery of the flock is found in the central paradox of the Cross, for it is in giving of His life as a lamb that He gave His blood as the purchase price of the church. (Acts 20:28.)

These analogies that we have mentioned are not, by any means all of the cognate ways of referring to the church, but enough perhaps to lend evidence that, although the church "belonging to Christ" is described in many ways, even as "the way" (Acts 9:2), it does not have a name.

The church includes all of those that have been obedient to the commands of Christ, and added to the group (the church) by the Lord, (Acts 2:47) and who have been translated into the kingdom (the church) of God's dear Son. (Colossians 1:13.) The church then, is composed of the saved, but no name is given for the church.

There are also many references to those that are members of the church including saints, Christians, disciples and brethren, but these are terms used to describe the individuals in the church, and not the name of the church. The church belongs to Christ. It is then, the church of Christ, a nameless institution.

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LETTER from Avery Green, one of the elders at Old Hickory, Tenn. -"You did a good job with the Feb. issue of the _Carolina Christian_. We especially liked the front cover." Letters like this serve to encourage us.

THE SUFFERING KINGDOM

Chester Hunnicutt, Cherokee, N. C.

"Verily I say unto you, among them that are born of women there hath not arisen a greater than John the Baptist: yet he that is but little in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence and men of violence take it by force."

We don't like to suffer, we don't like to see our loved ones suffer. We sympathize when our friends suffer. In fact the right thinking person has a feeling for animals when they suffer; especially if it is a pet. There is a law in Alabama--not to inflict undue punishment on animals, such as whipping a mule, or keeping stock up. The church of our Lord, the greatest and grandest institution on earth can suffer, has suffered, and is suffering.

I could quit the church and this would be bad, and the church would suffer, but it would hurt me worse. The church will go on. No one member is indispensable. It is like a mouse gnawing a file. The file is not hurt, but the mouse is. Sometimes one thinks he is hurting the church when in reality he is hurting himself most.

"For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." (Romans 14:17.) Righteousness is anything that is right. All of God's commandments are righteousness; peace or quiet and calm. Some members do not want peace. Some are fussy, gossipping, hobby riding. When we have this in the church, it suffers. When the church suffers, then its head, Christ, suffers if it is possible. A lawyer and his wife were about to separate. Some ladies called on this couple to invite them to church services. The couple were quarreling so loudly they did not know that the ladies were at the door. Of course, every loud word was heard. Finally, when the ladies made them hear them, they let them in. The good ladies said, "We heard every word you were saying to each other, but we will not tell a soul." They didn't, and as a result of their not gossipping, this lawyer and wife stayed together and obeyed the gospel. We know what would have happened if they had told this. Our tongue can be controlled. We must be careful what we say or else we will hurt the church. It is suffering enough without its members inflicting more punishment. The man on the street knows that a person lies, cheats, steals, curses, etc. We should be very careful how we act and what we say. The man on the street can tell if we are a Christian.

I mentioned the hobby riders which include the no literature group, one cuppers, no table cloth group, the pre-millennium group and the anti-orphan home groups. All these are causing the kingdom to suffer. I believe that most all of these brethren are sincere, but I believe they are wrong and are causing the church to suffer unnecessarily. Let us all earnestly pray that we look into our lives and teaching—to make sure that we aren't doing or saying anything to hurt the church. I have heard it said, "I had rather be the one that pierced the physical body of Christ than to divide his spiritual body."

The tightwad member is causing the church to suffer. Millions of souls are dying out of Christ for the lack of funds. The members have millions of dollars that they could give but will not. The love of money on our part is retarding the growth of the kingdom. Are we throwing out the lifeline, my brother? Do you pay your debts? Because many do not, the kingdom of my Lord suffers. May we all be very cautious about our life and seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. (Matthew 6:33.)

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Order extra copies of this special issue on "The Church." Quantities in any amount for the regular bundle price.

APOSTASY

James A. Davis, Hendersonville, N. C.

Think of a barren field, with patches of thorn bush and briers scattered here and there... This is God's comparison to a wayward Christian. Or think of a sickened dog turning again to it's own vomit or a sow once clean and washed wallowing in a mud hole... These are God's vivid descriptions of those once faithful in His cause who now walk in the ways of the world again. (Hebrews 6:8; 2 Peter 2:2.)

A Bitter Word

Apostasy is a bitter word which has brought heartache to many. The dictionary defines it as, "Abandonment of what one has voluntarily professed; total desertion of principles or faith." While the apostate is defined as, "a renegade." (Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Fifth Edition, p. 50.) The word appears only twice in the original Greek, once in Acts 21:21 where Paul is falsely accused of it by the Jews, and again in 2 Thessalonians 2:2 where Paul speaks of the great apostasy foretold by Jesus in Matthew 24:10-12. (The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia, Vol. I, p. 202.)

What Causes It?

The causes of apostasy are many, and instances of it are mentioned repeatedly in the Bible. Jesus stated that persecution would cause it. (Matthew 24:9, 10.) Also Jesus stated that false teachers would lead some into it. (Mt. 24:11.) Temptation causes some to fall away. (Luke 8:13.) Worldliness takes it's toll of souls. (2 Tim. 4:4.) Defective, incomplete knowledge of Christ robs the church of countless others. (1 John 2:19.) Defection from true, strict morals takes others. (Hebrews 6:4-6.) Forsaking worship and spiritual living leads others away. (Hebrews 10:25-31.) And unbelief causes others to fall. (Heb. 3:12.) (The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia, Vol. I, p. 202.)

Some Who Fell

There is probably not a more deplorable figure in history than Saul, first king of Israel who started out with such wonderful promise, but who died in complete rejection, and shame before God. (1 Samuel 15:11.)

How sad, and heartbreaking are the lines in 2 Timothy 4:10 which read, "Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world..." Think of the anguish that comes to the soul of a parent when that precious and beloved son or daughter announces, "I just don't care for those things any longer... I intend to live my life as I please," when urged to be true and faithful to the church while away in school or on a visit away from home. Last summer a retired Army Colonel was telling me of his concern and prayers for a son who had married into a worldly, prestige loving, so-called intellectual family of high standing. The son no longer "believed" in Christ or spiritual values. Ironically in earlier years it was the son who had led the father to Christ.

Ever Present Danger

The seed of apostasy lies in every heart, because of the nature of the human man, and because of the pressures, and temptations of the age in which we live. Perhaps the greatest pitfalls before Christians of today is the materialistic, paganistic attitudes that are growing so prevalent all about us. We live in a time when prosperity, and leisure time combine to provide bountiful opportunities for pursuit of pleasure and self-indulgence. It is vitally necessary that the Christian of today practice careful control over thoughts and desires. There must be a reining in of desires, and a rededication to the vital principles of faith.

How to Combat It!

The Epistle of Jude is devoted to a scathing rebuke of apostasy, and in verses 20-

23 are presented points of practical advice to help the true Christian to stand firm, "But ye beloved, building up yoursleves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep yourselves in the love of God, . . ." By faithful attendance, prayerful study, humble dedication, true loyalty we can guard our souls from falling. But, never forget, WE CAN FALL, AND FALL WE WILL IF WE DO NOT RESIST THE DEVIL AND CLING TO WHAT IS RIGHT!

We Can Stand

Two principles, if followed, will give us the power to overcome all temptations. One is that we need to meet temptation in the mind before it is met in the act. What people read, think, and see are indeed vital. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Temptation is not conquered if we wait until the overt act stands in front of us; temptation is conquered in the mind before the act presents itself.

The second principle is, temptation is conquered only if we have a standard of values to which we have given our allegiance. Jesus was able to overcome almost superhuman temptations because He was dedicated to God's standard. (Batsell Barrett Baxter, Great Texts - Matthew 4:1-11, Sermon No. 372.)

When we regard salvation and Heaven in true perspective, and come to desire an eternity with God and His people above all else, then we can see the value of these principles and put them to work in our lives.

Christ And The Church (cont'd)

we do this is through his body, the church. Upon our obedience to the gospel of Christ, the Lord adds us to that body so that we may serve him. The church is also pictured as the bride of Christ. (cf. Romans 7:4 and Revelation 21:9.) Thus, it honors His name and serves him faithfully. In their service, it is the obligation of Christians to keep themselves and the church pure, "not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing." (Ephesians 5:27.) It is impossible to truly exalt Christ without manifesting intense dedication for His church. Likewise, it is impossible to talk about the church described in the New Testament, and not talk about Christ. Can one who loves the Lord fail to love the institution for which he died? It is impossible to fully teach the Christ of the Bible without proclaiming the facts concerning His body, the church. How we esteem one will determine how we esteem the other. The affinity of Christ and the church makes this clear. Membership in the church is essential because within that body flows the cleansing blood of the saviour. The church is an essential element in Christianity.

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BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.

HENRYK CISZEK, a Polish - American who was converted to Christ in 1956 largely due to serving as an interpreter for OTIS GATEWOOD who had engaged a representative of the United Protestant Alliance in debate, has been forced by the Polish government to leave that country. Ciszek now serves as a minister of the URBANDALE church of Christ in Dallas, Texas. This congregation supports 11 of the 20 preachers presently working in Poland. For the past several years JOSEF NAUMIUK and HENRYK CISZEK have been in the news because of sporadic harassment by the government of Poland. In spite of the persecution, there are now 18 congregations and 1,000 members of the church in that country. Ciszek says that while LYNDON B. JOHNSON was a senator he was instrumental in getting the State Department to intervene in behalf of his rights. After becoming President, Johnson sent a letter of encouragement to the Polish brethren.

BOB HARE of Vienna, Austria is now in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in a gospel meeting. This is one of a series of meetings which began in Karachi, Pakistan Feb. 11 and which will end April 23 in Saigon, S. Vietnam. On this trip he has preached in other meetings in Lahore, Pakistan, Madras and Assam, India, and Bangkok and Singapore, Malaysia.

DONALD HINDSLEY and WINFRED WRIGHT, missionaries to France, have concluded a 6 weeks' preaching trip to the Cameroons, a newly independent African country. One fourth of those taking a Bible Correspondence Course from Paris are natives of the Cameroons. These brethren are the first missionaries of the church who are known to have visited the Cameroons with the gospel.

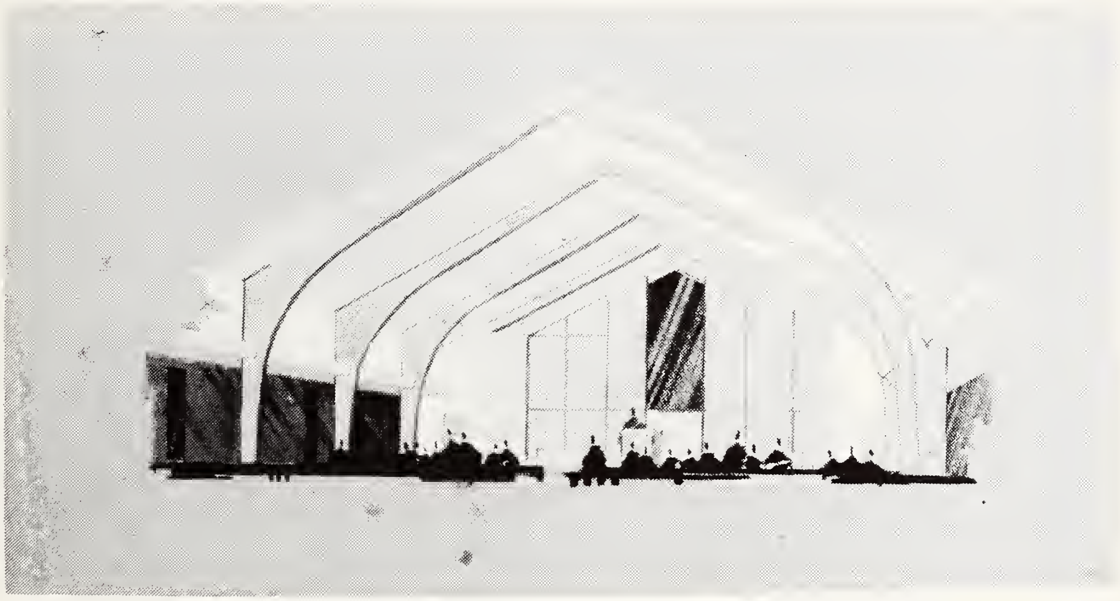
There are 34 BIBLE CHAIRS in the U. S., operated by churches of Christ in conjunction with public colleges and universities, which offer accredited Bible courses. Of these, only one is east of the Mississippi River, this being the one in connection with the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

Missionaries continually seek to impress the brotherhood with the shortage of workers and funds! A few weeks ago the brethren in Baguio City, Philippines printed the first lessons of a Bible Correspondence Course in the Ilocano dialect, one of the major Philippine dialects. Over 900 requested this course which was advertized simply by word of mouth. There are 20 lessons in the course; only five have been printed because of a lack of funds. For only $27 two thousand copies of a given lesson can be printed.

A native Jamaican preacher, stricken with arthritis, sold his only cow to secure money for the erection of a building of woven basket-style bamboo strips. He had preached for this group without pay. Melvin Harbison, a missionary to Hong Kong, China, said that 15 or 20 additional missionary families are needed in that city alone. "We simply have to have more workers!" Who will fill these two major needs: workers and funds?

More than 1,200 replies have been received by the PARK HILL CHURCH in Denver, Colorado to an advertisement placed in the FAMILY WEEKLY, a Sunday newspaper supplement released in 160 cities with a subscription reaching four and one half million homes. This advertisement is a part of their WORLD WIDE BIBLE STUDY program which is being supported by some 30 congregations.

Our brethren now have the opportunity to purchase the land on which we have built the KOREAN MISSION COMPOUND. It can be purchased for $45,000 which represents a considerable discount.



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P. O. Box 5424, Raleigh, N. C.

Tom Bolick, S. C. News Editor
150 Lancaster St., Chester, S. C.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

Kinston

NOYLES E. SEWELL, Reporting: During February we set six attendance records. Recently Ray Fullerton of Goldsboro and I drove 25 miles out into the country to baptize a 60 year old man who has been studying by correspondence course. He has never before set foot in one of our buildings. Four others were baptized here within the last two weeks, making a total of nine additions for this year. We begin a meeting March 23 with Paul Kidwell of Charlotte doing the preaching.

Rockingham

PAT S. DAWKINS, Reporting: Recently two responded to the Lord's invitation. On March 1, Bro. Bill G. Smith and Bro. J. H. Blackman of Salisbury exchanged pulpits. We enjoyed hearing Bro. Blackman speak and meeting his family.

Our goals are being fulfilled. We have much for which to work. The contribution and attendance are increasing. We will be losing one family shortly. A new visitation program is being enjoyed by all participating.

Sincere thanks and much appreciation to each who helped make the Carolina Lectures a success.

Statesville, Broad St.

HAROLD SCOTT, Reporting: Since we have not reported in 1964, we will give our averages for 1963. In 1963 19 were baptized. We averaged 141 in Bible study attendance, 177 for morning worship, and 106 for evening. Vacation Bible school averaged 150 per night. A record of $236. 50 was contributed each Lord's day.

Our gospel meeting begins May 3rd with J. B. Whitaker of the N. Main congregation in Mocksville as speaker.

Since Bro. Scott will be leaving for overseas mission work in New Zealand the first of 1965, we would be interested in hearing from any preacher who might want to work with this congregation. Write us at Box 1484, Statesville, N. C.

Bryson City

CATHERINE ASHE, Reporting: The church here launched a building fund campaign on March 29. Our next meeting is scheduled for June 19-21, with the local minister, Carlton Elkins, preaching.

Charlotte, Plaza

PAUL KIDWELL, Reporting: Through two Lord's days in March, we are meeting our new budget of $450 per week. Response to the Master's invitation has been wonderful. Seven have been immersed and 34 confessed faults since the first of the year. An attendance board, providing us with a system to accurately check individual attendance, coupled with a permanent record in our office files should prove helpful in cutting absenteeism. A teacher training series was begun last week using the Moody series of film strips. We are seeking to line up consistently strong meetings for the future. Lawernce Garmon of Marshall, Texas will be with us in September. Included in our budget is an increase in mission work. We hope to be able to do more, especially in the Carolinas. We are presently helping the Burton Street congregation of this city.

Valdese

MADELINE C. BROWN, Reporting: There has been much sickness during the past month. Attendance has been slightly below average. We have a drive to increase the daily Bible readers. There was a slight increase during the month but it is not yet up to expectations. We are a potential 100 % daily Bible reading group.

Contribution continues above average with an average of $174 for last month. Membership continues at 35; 21 are wage earners, nine of which are women.

A five day vacation Bible school is planned for June 29 - July 3. Bro. T. A. Isaacs, formerly of Charlotte and now of New Orleans, will conduct a meeting here July 6-12. All have a cordial invitation to attend.

Charlotte, Westside

JOHNNY C. SEWELL, Reporting: On the evening of February 16 one was baptized and one was restored. On the following Wednesday evening one was restored and on the Sunday evening of the 23rd. five were restored. There are presently 63 members of this congregation. Our plans for a new church building are progressing well with the bond sale having begun on March 8 and construction to begin around April 1. Security Plan, Inc. is handling the bond issue and the Paden Company will erect the building. The Westside congregation is less than two years old, having begun in May of 1962.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

As you can see from the News I will move from Chester to Shelby, N. C. on May 18. This will of necessity remove me from the work of S. C. News Editor of the Carolina Christian. I will be able to do the news sent to me in April for the May edition, but will be unable to do so in May for the June edition.

It has been a pleasure to help in this small way and I hope to help the Carolina Christian in the future.

Columbia, Park St.

RALPH SEIDERS, Reporting: The colored church in Columbia, meeting at Heidt and Santee, has made good progress since it began a year ago, presently having 17 members. Others have helped in the financial support but have had to discontinue their help, leaving about $100 a month to be absorbed by the Park St. church. V. E. Williamson, their regular evangelist, has been asked to help support himself leaving him only a part-time work, greatly curtailing the work. A recent visit to Tennessee by Bro. Williamson to secure funds has produced no positive results as yet. All interested individuals and congregations are urged to help in this fast growing congregation. With help it could be self-supporting in a few years.

Florence

H. P. DODD, Reporting: Our attendance is good with 85 as a record thus far. Bro. Jack Fogarty will be with us in a meeting April 12-19 with services at 7:30 each evening. I certainly enjoy and appreciate the fine articles in the Carolina Christian.

Carl Evans

108 W. Alexander St.
Buchanan, Michigan 49107

We have sold our home in Michigan and have a desire to move to the mission fields of South Carolina, to a town of medium size, purchase a home, help establish a church and spend our remaining days there. We would like to hear from anyone who knows of a desirable place where perhaps there are one or two families who are (or were) members of the church. We would prefer a town that is clean and inviting to others.

We cannot say when we could move because of obligations to the church here, but it would be some time in the late fall or early winter. We would take our vacation in the early summer to investigate the work and purchase our house. This is an invitation to any who would care to write.

Camden, King & Lyttleton St.

MRS. SUZANNE LEE, Reporting: The

brethren are still pressing on that others will be saved and added to the church. Bro. C. C. Vaughan feeds us richly on God's word. We appreciate his courage and dedication. Recently, we had a distinguished guest, Mr. Richard Haile, a mortician. On Sunday nights, we meet with the Columbia church to strengthen them as they are still babes in Christ.

Clinton

U. A. HALL, Reporting: The work in Clinton is encouraging with attendance and collection up in February. Averages were: Bible classes, 20; morning worship, 23; evening worship, 22; Thursday night class 16; collection, $74.75. Two were restored recently. We are now meeting in the house purchased on N. Broad St. We still need help. We have received song books from the Edgewood church in Greenville, borrowed charis from Duncan and Union, and are in need of tracts and Bibles. Financial help is also needed. Who will come to our aid? Contact the church here or at Union.

Duncan

ROY BURGESS, Reporting: The month of March is off to a very good start; six have been restored and two baptized. Attendance and contribution are up. Our daily radio program had helped much in these efforts. Ottis Qualls will preach in our meeting in April.

N. Charleston, Durant Ave.

J. C. WATKINS, Reporting: Our spring meeting will be April 12-19, with Ernest Thigpen of Greenville as guest evangelist.

We rejoice that new records have been made and then broken almost every week since Rhoden Presnell began his work with us. Sunday, March 8, was a banner day for us as we broke our attendance goal of 300 with 341 for Bible study; 342 were present for the morning worship. These are all time records for Durant Ave.

We are happiest, however, over the fact that 23 souls responded to the Lord's invitation on that date. Two were baptized

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———AND YOU HAVE A SPECIAL INVITATION

and 21 confessed sin and asked the prayers and forgiveness of the congregation. This brings to 40 the number responding to the invitation since brother Presnell came to work with us. We pray God's blessings on us and all other laboring congregations who serve Christ.

Chester

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: The church at Chester is seeking the services of a full-time minister as of June 1st. Bro. Bolick, having worked here for four years, will move to Shelby, N. C., to work with the church. We would like to receive correspondence from and preacher or interested party as soon as possible. The church is sound and has excellent potential.

Lancaster

RICHARD HARP, Reporting: Zeal has increased on the part of the members of the church at Lancaster and the people of the town are expressing more interest. We have just completed a new building with a seating capacity of over 200, five classrooms, a nursery, and an office. With these new facilities we are confident that the work will move forward now with even greater pace. Our daily radio program, "The Bread of Life," continues to do more in presenting the church to the public than anything we have tried.

Our meeting is scheduled April 12-18 with a different speaker for each evening service. The general theme will be "Back To The Bible," and those speaking and their subjects are: Apr. 12, 11:00, "God's Plan for the Work of the Church," Richard Harp; 2:30, Congregational Singing; 3:30, Paul Kidwell, Charlotte as guest speaker; 7:30, "Handling Aright the Word of Truth," Tom Bolick of Chester; Apr. 13, "The Scriptures' Organization of the Church," Richard Walker, Aiken; Apr. 14, "The Scriptures' Use of Names and Titles," by W. G. Gantt, Columbia; Apr. 15, "The Scriptures' Plea For Unity," H. P. Dodd, Florence; Apr. 16, "Worship of the New Testament Church," Marvin Bryant, Gaff-

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ney; April 17, "God's Plan of Salvation," David Pharr, Rock Hill; Apr. 18, "The Judgement and the Scriptures," Milton Parker of Union.

Greenville, Augusta Rd.

CARL LANCASTER, Reporting: An overflow crowd was present for a singing on March 1. After a period of congregational singing a chorus of volunteer singers from the Greenville area presented an inspiring program in song. Burl Curtis directs the group.

On the same day we had set a goal of $300 for contribution. It was $377. Our next meeting is scheduled for June 1-7 with Wendell Jacobs of the Bull St. congregation in Savanah, Ga., doing the preaching.

Greenville, Northeast

BURL CURTIS, Reporting: March has been a leading month for us. Contribution records have been broken twice; $165 was given on the first Sunday and $176 on the third. Our highest attendance for the month has been 75.

Definite plans have been completed for the construction of our building. Continental Church Builders will be the builder and Security Plan will handle the bonds. The auditorium will seat 318 with an overflow area for about 100 more; there will be 13 teaching spaces counting the auditorium and nursery as two. The building will be fully air conditioned.

The Belmont Ave. congregation in Nashville, Tennessee is working with us in planning a campaign at Northeast, August 22-30. About 20 workers will be coming from Belmont to help us; $2,000 has been allocated for advertizing and other expenses. David Martin, minister at Belmont, will do the preaching in the campaign.

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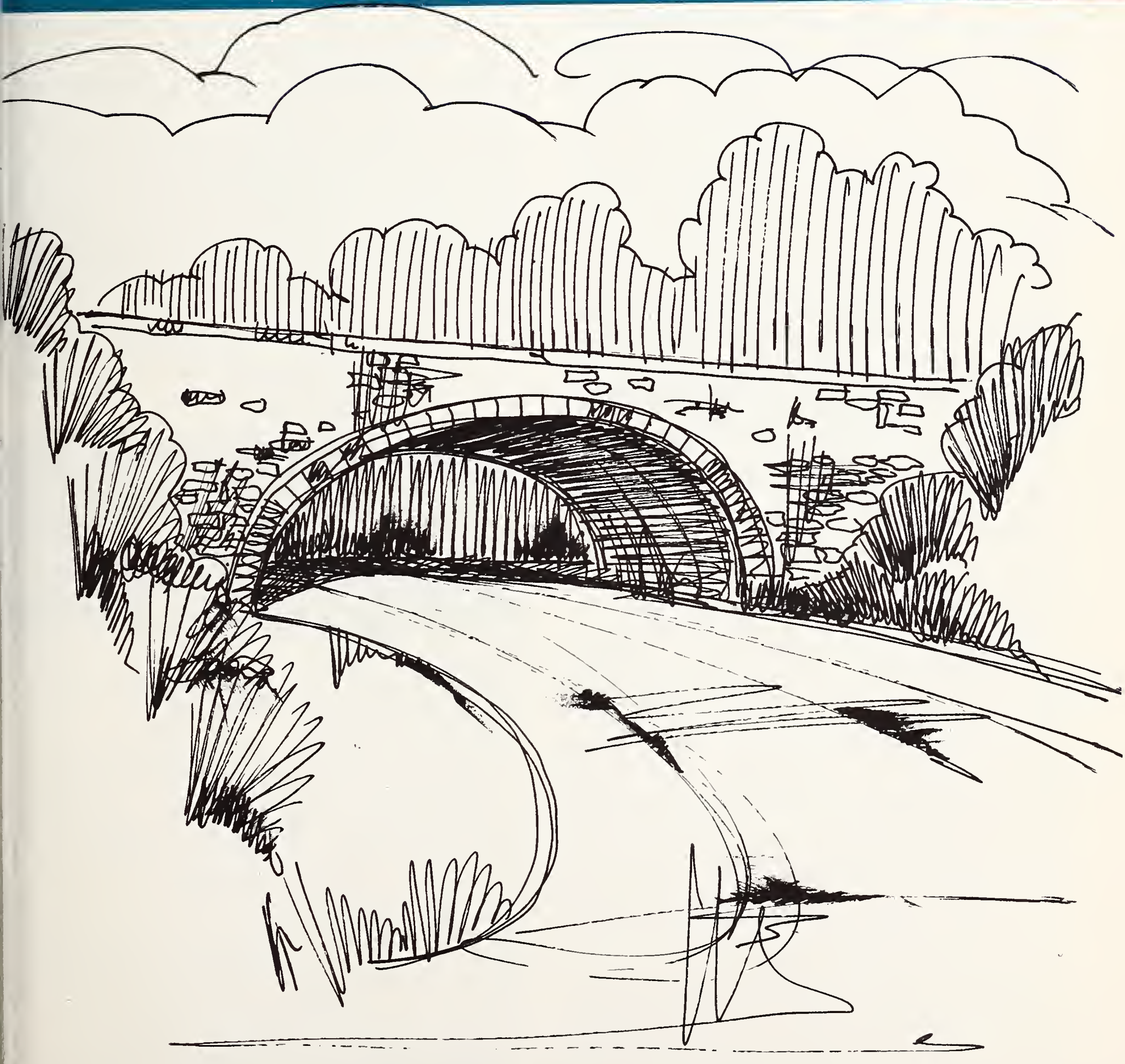
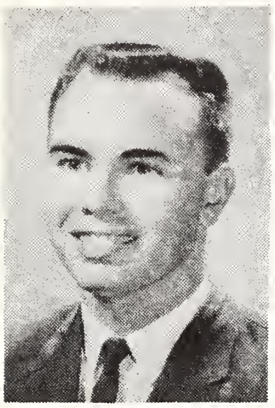


THE LOOP IN THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS

MAY, 1964 VOLUME 6, NUMBER 5

EDITORIAL — Preparation For Worship

Richard Walker, Aiken, S. C.*



For the Christian worship is a gratifying, enlightening, and transforming experience. Nothing should fill our hearts with greater joy than the opportunity to praise God's name. "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go unto the house of Jehovah." (Psalms 122:1.) Many professed Christians have never experienced spiritual communion with God and their brethren in worship simply because their worship was not preceded by adequate preparation. Thus many go to the church building, observe scriptural acts of worship, but never worship acceptably in spirit.

How often do Christians depart from worship with feelings of despondency and animosity rather than feelings of fulfillment, contentment, and enthusiasm? Who is responsible? Those who attend worship with little faith, reverence, thankfulness, humility, and an impenitent spirit usually leave finding themselves no closer to God or their fellow man. These are those who make no preparation and find themselves unjustly criticizing others who are diligently seeking to worship acceptably.

The Christian who spends only a reasonable amount of time in deliberate preparation will find those spiritual blessings which will enable him to consecrate his life completely to God. Preparation brings the Christian to the meek and humble spirit which is conducive to the strengthening of spiritual ties among brethren. Acceptable worship is not offered by chance or in a haphazard manner. Sincere preparation must precede our worship.

Christ instructs us concerning the importance of preparation. "If therefore thou art offering thy gift at the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee, leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way, first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." (Matthew 5:23, 24.) One can not expect forgiveness of sin if he refuses to forgive his fellow man. (Matthew 6:14, 15.) A man connot love God and hate his brother. (1 John 4:20.) How little time and how little effort is required for one to humbly ask his brother's forgiveness for that foolish sin or misunderstanding which is capable of storing up mountains of jealousy, strife, and faction. "Hatred stirreth up strifes; but love covereth all transgressions." (Proverbs 10:12.) "Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall." (Proverbs 16:18.) Let us exercise love of the brethren rather than self pride. Only by a forgiving spirit may brethren be completely united in spirit as they worship. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." (Psalms 133:1.)

If because of public transgressions you are not in full fellowship with God and the

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carolina
CHRISTIAN

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*Guest Editor

SPIRITUAL WORSHIP

G. W. Childs, Barnwell, S. C.

Man, wherever he may be found, and often in spite of his habitation or position in life, is a worshipping being. It is just as natural for him to worship as it is to eat and sleep. This seems to be an instinctive urge which was created by God within the heart of every individual. However, our manner and object of worship differ with our understanding and emotions. It is not enough for man to worship--he must worship the right object, in the right manner and spirit.

The Old Testament vividly describes the manner and spirit in which the Jews worshipped God. The Hebrew word which was generally used to denote worship is rendered in the A. V. by the words bow, stoop, crouch, fall down, beseech humbly, make obeisance, and do reverence. The word originally signified prostration as a mark of respect, and is applied in Scripture not only to God and to false gods, but also to men.

Our concern is about the religious significance of the word "worship" as it relates to God. It should be observed that the Jewish worship of God was to be carried out by the people themselves, and was not done for them by the priest. It not only consisted of outward prostration, such as they offered as a mark of reverence to one another, or such as the heathen offered to their false gods, but was to be accompanied by the devotion of the heart.

In the later days reverent worship was to be offered to the Messiah. This is evident from Psalms 22:27, "All the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee;" verse 29, "All they that be fat upon earth shall eat and worship; all they that go down to the dust shall bow before him;" Psalms 45:11, "He is thy Lord; and worship thou him."

Classical passages in the New Testament for Christian worship are John 4:24, "God is a spirit; and they that worship him must worship in spirit and truth," and Phillipians 3:3, "...who worship by the Spirit of God." In our Lord's conversation with the woman of Samaria, the word worship occurs nine times in the course of five verses, and the true principle of worship is clearly enunciated. Christ defined the inner essence of worship, which is the genuine and vital expression of inner love and devotion. The primary emphasis of Jesus was not on form and ceremony, but on the inwardness of experience in worship. Worship, as defined by Jesus, is something far deeper than the human emotion or surrender of will; it is the response of God's Spirit in us to that Spirit in Him, whereby we answer, "Abba, Father," deep calling unto deep. Worship is the expression of devoted hearts in their loving attempt to pay their unpayable debt of love to God. It is not a physical act or material offering, but an attitude of mind: "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit."

External ceremony is not done away with in the present dispensation, though its relative importance is considerably reduced. Public worship may be informal and extemporaneous, but it must follow some order or become disorderly and cease to be worship. Worship generally tends to follow two extremes. One is that of ornateness, ceremonial elaborateness, and complicated formalism. Such worship may have the form of godliness without the power thereof. The other extreme is formless worship, extemporaneous and unplanned, often confused and poverty stricken. Obviously a medium between the two is needed. The order should not be so varied as to confuse and embarrass the congregation by unexpected demands; yet it should not become so stereotyped as to lose freshness and interest.

There is a definite need for training people to worship in the church. Skill in public worship is attained through instruc-

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ATTITUDE TOWARD WORSHIP

Charles Mullins, N. Augusta, S. C.

The time one spends in worship to God is the finest moments of the week. During these few moments we offer up worship and adoration to God who made us, who loves us, and who gave his beloved Son to die in our place, that we might have hope of eternal life.

It is indeed a very strange thing that many Christians do not treasure these moments in worship. I believe the reason for this is due to the individual failing to have the proper attitude toward worship. This is the reason so many do not comprehend adequately the great privilege one has in worshipping God.

In order for the Christian to have this feeling toward worship, he must have the proper attitude toward God. This can only be accomplished if one has an adequate idea of God. Isaiah had an adequate idea of God. "In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne high and lifted up; and his train filled the temple." (Isaiah 6:1.) Pause for a few moments and allow these words to take hold of you and to overwhelm you! God, with majesty and grandeur.

We need to get the grown-up image of God, the mature Christian image of God. When we do it will arouse our admiration of reverence, respect and love. When we are aroused to this end, we will say to ourselves, if God is like this, I want to tell God how I feel. I want to pay homage to him. Yes, when we see the Lord, high, holy, on his throne and lifted up, real worship will begin.

While worship begins when one pauses to see God, high and lifted up, this is not the end. Man now needs to have the proper attitude toward himself. "Then said I, woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, Jehovah of hosts." (Isaiah 6:5.) Man has an adequate idea of God, he now compares himself with God. Man now has the proper attitude of himself; weak, sinful, inadequate and undone. Immediately his pride is punctured. He humbles himself in the presence of God, high and lifted up.

Man realizes he must be cleansed and made holy to bow before God. "Then flew one of the seraphim unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar; and he touched my mouth with it, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away and thy sin forgiven." (Isaiah 6:8,9.) He must be cleansed of prejudice, hatred, selfishness, indifference and lust that has made him so lowly. He realizes Christ came to make him clean and holy. He realizes Christ gives him boldness to enter into the presence of God. (Cf. Hebrews 10:19-21.) Man falls before God to worship him.

Man now needs to have the proper attitude of what worship does for him. "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send and who will go for us? Then I said, Here am I; send me. And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not." (Isaiah 6:8, 9.) Having worshipped God he now goes and tells others. (Cf. Hebrews 10:24.) He tells others of God. He unfolds unto man his needs. He shows how Jesus Christ can fill all of man's needs. He strives to tell others how to spend the happiest moments of every week of their life, in worship to God.

MISSION MEETINGS AVAILABLE

The two following preachers are willing to come to the Carolinas for meetings. The congregations where they work will pay their expenses.

Taylor Davis, P. O. Box 131
Gates, Tennessee
Joe T. Spivy, Sr., Box 128
Cornersville, Tennessee

DECENCY AND ORDER

F. T. Patton, Allendale, S. C.

Jehovah is a God of order: with him there is a time and place for everything. This is seen in his creation of the earth; for each step was taken in its proper order. It is also evident in God's scheme of redemption. He called Abraham, and promised to bless the world through his seed. The Jews were "set apart" to keep Abraham's blood line pure till Christ came. Christ was born, lived and died at the exact time God thought best to fulfill his plan of salvation.

Man, being made in the image of God, is a creature of order. If man succeeds in any walk of life, there must be order. How much pain, confusion and loss could be prevented if men would only remember to place things in their correct order. Those who fail to place things in their proper order are a failure in life. This is true whether one is raising a family, running a business, or worshipping God. It is especially true in relationship to God. If God is first in one's life everything else will fall into its proper place. But those who fail to put him first in their life find everything else out of order. Life loses its meaning, and is indeed a failure.

God has always commanded man, not only to worship and serve him, but he specified the kind and order of worship. In the Patriarchal Age he commanded animal sacrifices to be given. In the Mosaical Age he appointed the place of worship, as well as the different kinds of animal sacrifices. Each sacrifice was to be offered at a particular time, and according to a certain order. When the Jews failed to follow God's order they soon drifted away from God into idolatry.

Christians are commanded to worship God "decently and in order." (1 Cor. 14: 40.) By "decently and in order" Paul does not mean to sing three songs, pray, sing another song, the preacher speak twenty-five minutes, sing an invitation song, partake of the Lord's supper, and then dismiss with a song and prayer. This is not decency and order but formalism; and is not what Paul was referring to. Many in the denominational world are realizing this stereotype worship is not pleasing to God; and are becoming dissatisfied. Churches of Christ need to awake to this great danger of formalism.

When Paul spoke of "decency and order" he was emphasizing the importance of worshipping God in the right frame of mind; and according to the order set forth in the New Testament. He means Christians should use only those things in their worship which God authorizes. Also, each part of the worship is to be placed in its proper order according to its importance. He is speaking of a sense of decency and order, not to be cultivated only by a few, but within the reach of all.

During the worship one should dwell upon things spiritual. He should remember his purpose for being there, and give attention to what is taking place. Children are wonderful, but is it "decently and in order" to play with them during the worship? Is it "decently and in order" to fail to control a child, and allow him to disturb others? Can it be "decently and in order" to let one's mind wander, to whisper, or to fall asleep during the service? When one refuses to take part in the service, is he in order? If one attends only one service a week, is he acting "decently and in order"?

To worship God "decently and in order" one must submit himself to the will of Christ; put God's kingdom first in his life; and let his light shine in this world of spiritual darkness. When Christians are assembled it must be to glorify God; and for their spiritual edification. God's order must be followed completely. Unless this is done the service is not in order.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (cont'd)

brethren, repent of your sin, confess before your brethren, and seek the prayers of the church. The Bible does not set forth a specific pattern for this confession. If one has come to complete repentance before the worship is to begin, it seemingly would be best to make acknowledgment of wrongs before the regular worship begins. The one in sin could discuss this with the preacher or faithful member who is to make the announcements before the worship is to begin. If the sinner has repented, why should he be restricted from even one worship period in complete communion with God and his brethren? The sinner's acknowledgments previous to worship may also tender the hearts of the impenitent. "I desire therefore that the men pray in every place, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and disputing." (1 Timothy 2:8.)

Preparation for worship is a continual effort as is living the Christian life. Preparation begins at the last A-men and continues until the first word of the first song. The very spirit in which we live and work prepares our hearts for worship. The manner in which we worship God personally and in the home largely determines whether our hearts will be in tune to worship with our brethren. If one fails to study, pray, and sing daily, it is no wonder that he fails to worship in the right spirit. Many difficulties and failures in our public worship could be eliminated if brethren would only spend sufficient time in personal worship.

There are many technical and practical things which must be observed in our preparation. Study these matters under your immediate circumstances. Prepare Bible school lessons early in the week; prepare and plan clothing for each member of family before Sunday morning; go to bed early Saturday night; awaken early Sunday morning; cooperate with all in the family; avoid arguments; leave for church early, etc. When you arive at the church building, heed these suggestions: Go into your classes early; avoid cliques; be friendly with all; sit with different members; welcome visitors; sit near the front; spend moments in silent meditation before worship begins; support and encourage the preacher by your attention; do not distract the attention of others by your manners or by your dress; participate in all phases of worship; rejoice and encourage all who respond to gospel call, etc. Add to this list some of your own ideas.

Brethren, if we love God and are desirous of praising His name, then let us awaken every member of every congregation to the importance of his preparation for worship. Prepare to meet your God in worship as well as in eternity.

SPIRITUAL WORSHIP (cont'd)

tion and practice. Many members do not participate in worship because they do not know how. Considering the tremendous importance of worship, is it not strange that so little emphasis is given to training people in the practice of worship?

G. S. Dobbins has well stated that "a church may have many attractions, but the quality of its worship remains perennially the magnet with which to draw the people to its services. Sensationalism may get quick and cheap results, but worthy and satisfying worship is an absolute essential for a church's permanent growth and usefulness." By improving the spirituality of worship in the church, we please God and draw other men to Him.

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1150	Orangeburg (WDIX)	9:30 p. m.
1340	Rock Hill (WRHI)	6:35 p. m.
1290	Sumter (WFIG)	6:35 p. m.

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PLAN TO ATTEND BLUE RIDGE!!

Decisions Determine Destinies

Hillery Motsinger, Greensboro, N. C.

Decisions determine destines. Everyday one makes decisions that have lasting effects on his life and others'. Some of the more important decisions deal with one's vocation or profession, one's family life, and one's spiritual future and security. Due to such stories as those found in II Kings 3:5-15 and Hosea 4:1-6, it is advocated by the writer that the decision about one's education will greatly affect his spiritual destiny.

At the outset, it should be stated that one's place in heaven will not be based on the number of college degrees that he has. However, the type of education will greatly affect his position. For a man acts as he is, and a man is what he is because of what he thinks (Proverbs 23:7; Phillipians 4:8.) In other words, how may a young person secure his heart unto God? It may be done by studying to show himself approved unto God. (II Timothy 2:15.) How will the young be able to learn that all scripture is inspired of God (II Timothy 3:16-17), unless someone shows him? (Acts 8:31.) He may learn this at church, but what about all the other forces to which a young person is exposed that teaches opposite to, or at least not in line with, the Bible? The young Christian needs to be in an environment where he may learn that the Bible and the other branches of knowledge compliment, and do not conflict with each other. Where may this be accomplished?

Will the public schools of America teach how that the Bible may help the young to secure their hearts unto God? Before answering this, take a look at the history of the objectives of the public schools.

Much credit is given to Martin Luther (1483-1546) as being one of the first supporters of the idea of public schools and public libraries. The main purpose was to better educate the young in the Bible. This idea was brought to America, especially to New England, by the colonists. In 1642 and 1647, laws were enacted in Massachusetts requiring the teaching of religion. The 1647 law has often been called the "Old Deluder Satan Act," which amplifies their concern for the teaching of the scriptures. But as America grew the curriculum changed to meet the needs of trade and commerce. By the time the American Revolutionary period arrived, the curriculum changed again, in that it took on a political objective. As each change took place religious training lost ground. With the formation of a new constitution religious training was no longer supported by public support.

It has been a blessing that church and state have been kept separate. Also one can readily see that it is neither the duty nor the responsibility of the state to provide our young with religious training. During the 1800's and the first half of the twentieth century, the Bible was respected, but left for the home and church to teach, which is their rightful duty. The trouble makers, so to speak, were the evolutionist, and they kept fairly quiet until the great breakthrough in science that has come in the last two decades.

The weakness of the public schools in the last twenty years has been mainly in its attitude toward God's word. In a very subtle and indirect manner, and due to the lack of support from the home and church, the faith of the young people toward the Bible has been slowly eaten away. The public schools' being gravely concerned about physical security has helped the young forget about spiritual security. They have placed development of the head over the development of the heart. This can be clearly seen in regard to the attitude of the schools toward the recent court order relating to prayer and scripture reading.

Since the young people spend as many, if not more, non-sleeping hours per week engaged in school activities than in home and church activities, how may we help the young secure their hearts? The writer believes that Christian education is the best means yet devised. Let us see why!

1. The supporters, administrators, teachers, and students will be working together with a like mind and like spirit. In a Christian school one may learn all the branches of knowledge in harmony with the Word of God. It is clear that an economics course taught by an American would not be the same course taught by a Communist. Also, a Bible course taught by a non-Christian will not be the same as if taught by a Christian.

2. The association with other Christians will enable one not only to learn by word but also by example. The hunter in training a young dog always takes an older and well trained dog along to set the proper example.

3. It has been proved that the church is stronger where there is a Christian school. Nashville, Abilene, Lubbock, and Memphis are good examples of this.

4. The Christian leaders for the church and community, the preachers, and the godly women that Christian schools have helped to produce speak for themselves.

5. The spiritual mortality rate in the church is always less with those who attend a Christian school. The divorce rate is astoundingly (1/200) less for couples that attend Christian schools.

David Lipscomb once stated that a few dedicated teachers' daily influence is greater than an army of eloquent preachers. (Lipscomb, David. Gospel Advocate CII, No. 16, p. 242.)

The Carolinas need a Christian school and have the resources to provide for one. What will our decision be on helping the young to secure their hearts?

(Your comments requested. -Editor.)

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Greenville Singers And Lectureship Audience

Pictured here are the "Greenville Singers" in a special program being presented before the Fellowship Dinner during the recent 20th Annual Lectureship at Rockingham, N. C. The Singers are directed by Burl Curtis, minister of the Northeast church, Greenville, S. C. Composed of members of the churches in the Greenville area, the group came to Rockingham to present the program before a crowd of more than 200. The Fellowship Dinner, arranged for by the Lectureship Planning Committee of the Rockingham church, was a new feature of Lecture Week and marked a high point in the activities. Joe Costilow, Rocky Mount, N. C., read the specially prepared script accompanying the songs and hymns.

Front row, left to right, are sopranos, Nancy Tong, Pat Pierce; altos, Lucy Hicks, Becky Tong; second row, sopranos, Mary Thigpen, Hettie Westmoreland, Bettye Bargatze; altos, Martha Sue Lancaster, Evelyn Curtis, Brenda Senn (substituting for Sandra Harrison); back row, tenors, Bobby Pierce, U. A. Hall, Dial Holder; basses, Marion Moon, E. G. Morris, and Glen Moreland. Approximately 10 children participated in 1st part of program.

Pictured above is part of a record audience which attended the 20th Annual Lectureship at Rockingham. Speaker on this occasion was Wayne Poucher, McLean, Va., nationally known Christian commentator whose broadcast, "Wayne Poucher from Washington," is heard nationwide. More than 200 were present. Many described this year's lectureship as the best in the history of the church in the Carolinas.

Bill G. Smith, minister at Rockingham, headed the Lectureship Planning Committee which also included Forrest Jerkins, O. A. Richardson, and Carl Phillips. Planning for this year's event began within days after the close of the 1963 Lectures at Union, S. C.

New features this year included a Singing School, conducted by Richard Walker, Aiken, S. C.; a special class for Bible school workers, taught by Ray Fullerton, Goldsboro, N. C.; and a special class on the Role of the Christian Woman, taught by Mrs. Ray Fullerton. Some fifty persons participated in the program during the week of April 6-10.

----by Ray Fullerton

The 1965 Carolina Lectures will be held at the Northeast church of Christ, Greenville, South Carolina. The dates will be announced soon.

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.

BATSELL BARRETT BAXTER, Chairman of the Bible Department at David Lipscomb College and widely known gospel preacher, underwent major surgery for cancer at Vanderbilt University Hospital. Following surgery, his condition was reported as good and the operation successful.

DAVID LIPSCOMB COLLEGE operates the only Christian school on the elementary, junior high, senior high and college level in Davidson County, Tennessee, an area in which the church of Christ is regarded as being especially strong. In the same county, where the total enrollment at Lipscomb is 2,100, the Roman Catholics operate 13 elementary schools, four high schools and one college with a total enrollment of 5,000!

A short time after his arrival in Saigon, South Viet Nam MAURICE HALL was asked to teach three classes per week in a village school. Hall agreed to teach English if, after each class, the students would stay for Bible instruction. The classroom seats 70, but the number in attendance reached 156 immediately. Only 50% of the children in South Viet Nam get to attend school past the 3rd grade.

GEORGE BAILEY, minister of the College church in Abilene, Texas is on an around the world evangelistic trip which will take him to Australia where he will preach two weeks in a Campaign for Christ in Brisbane. The minister of the Wynnum congregation has been supported by the College congregation for 20 years in mission work.

DON G. MOORE has been appointed Acting Superintendent of CHILDHAVEN home for children in Cullman, Alabama following the resignation of BARNEY BROCK who served as Superintendent more than 13 years.

The church in Mexico City is seeking funds with which to purchase a meeting house. The government of Mexico requires that: (1) religious groups register with the government, (2) no group can be registered without owning its own property, (3) the building be approved for religious uses. Rentals do not qualify; (4) religious services not meeting these requirements are against the law. In this Mexico City congregation there are 20 members.

The work in several countries in Europe stands as follows: The first congregation in SWEDEN began in 1957 and a second was begun in 1960. In GERMANY there are 25 congregations with a total membership of 950. NORWAY has four congregations with a membership total of 46. There are some 30 churches in ENGLAND with 18 more in SCOTLAND and IRELAND. The English work dates back to the time of Campbell, but digression carried many away. The first known work in BELGIUM was in 1947. There are now seven congregations within that country of 10 million. The church began in DENMARK in 1957. After 16 years of work in HOLLAND, the faithful Christians number 80. Seven cities have native congregations in FRANCE. English speaking churches connected with service personnel meet in various other cities. ITALY has 40 churches of Christ, approximately 1,200 members with 13 American and 20 Italian ministers.

Each day in NIGERIA we are teaching the Bible to 3,000 boys and girls in 10 Christian schools. In addition, we are teaching 4,000 young people attending government schools. LUCIAN PALMER says, "The amazing thing is not the 7,000 we are teaching, but the available opportunities to teach thousands of others if we had financial support and additional teachers. Boys and girls do, far beyond your imagination, wait in line for the missionary to teach them the Bible."

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

Richard Harp, S. C. News Editor
Box 134, Lancaster, S. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

This is my last time to edit the South Carolina news and may I express my appreciation to all who have shown an interest in this work. It has helped me to do it. I will move to Shelby May 18th to begin work with the church there and will receive support from the 6th and Izzard church in Little Rock, Arkansas. We will have a Monday through Friday radio program at 9 A. M. that has proven to be such a power to the church in Chester. Please remember the church in your prayers.

Gaffney

MARVIN BRYANT, Reporting: 28 David Lipscomb College students helped in an eight day campaign during March. Every house in Gaffney was called on at least once and this city was wonderfully impressed with the attitude and character of these young people. They set this church at least five years ahead in establishing good will among the people. An average of 20 people from the community, nonmembers, visited the services nightly. Five were baptized as a result of this meeting. One later obeyed the gospel who had formerly preached in the Primitive Baptist church. This makes 27 baptized since the church began in Gaffney last May. Four of these had been denominational preachers.

West Columbia

MRS. SARA SHEALY, Reporting: As of January 1, 1964 the church in West Columbia became self supporting. The church at Madison, Tennessee had been helping us. Our budget is set at $230 per week. The last few weeks have been joyous for us. Nine were baptized in about as many days. The Lord has certainly blessed us. Our spring meeting was Apr. 20 - 26. Brother J. B. Whitaker from Mocksville is exchanging a meeting with brother Gantt.

Chester

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: The church in Chester is looking for a qualified man to work with the church. We had an excellent meeting in Apr. with Phillip Black of Gadsden, Alabama in which one was baptized.

Williston

THOMAS R. JACKSON, Reporting: April 1, Bro. George Warren, a native of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, began preaching for the church here. He moved here from the congregation in Anna, Illinois, having worked there about two years.

N. Charleston, Durant Ave.

J. C. WATKINS, Reporting: This congregation has made great progress and shown more zeal than ever before since brother Rhoden Presnell began his work with us in December. He and I are showing Jule Miller film strips about five nights a week. Since the first of the year there have been 22 baptisms and 44 confessions of sin. We worked hard in preparation for our Gospel Meeting with Ernest Thigpen, April 11. Excellent personal work by the members was put into this preparation. On March 29th, attendance records were broken with 315 present for Bible study and 369 for morning worship. On April 8th we had 211 for the midweek service. We thank God for his blessings.

Camden, King & Littleton St.

MRS. SUZANNE H. LEE, Reporting: The church is growing here under the capable preaching of brother C. C. Vaughan. Our attendance during March was down because of illness in the church. Recently we had a young peoples gathering at my home with others from Williston joining in our fellowship. Pray for the sick and for the progress of the church.

Columbia, Park St.

RALPH R. SEIDERS, Reporting: R. W. Senn, who is now serving the Park Street church as elder, has announced that he is leaving to attend Freed-Hardeman College in Henderson, Tennessee.

He has long desired to serve the church in a greater capacity than he could while working and raising a family. He and his faithful wife, Vera, realize that opportunity now. "Doc" Senn plans to return to the Carolinas to preach full time when he has completed his studies at the school. His youngest son, David, is now a student at F-HC, and Jerry and Rudy, his other sons, are both preaching. This fine Christian family has been a great asset to the Park Street church, and so shall they be to the church wherever they may be.

Clinton

U. A. HALL, Reporting: We are now meeting in our enlarged auditorium and expecting larger attendance. Our meeting is planned for July with Milton Parker of Union preaching. Our average attendance for March was: Bible school, 20; A.M. worship, 21; P.M. worship, 20; Thursday night, 20. Collection was $71.34. Three souls were restored to the Lord. This has been a very good month for us. Thank God for His many blessings. Please continue to pray for us.

Lancaster

RICHARD HARP, Reporting: We have recently moved into our new building which fills all our hearts with joy. This past week was one that we will always remember having heard God's word proclaimed by eight different guest speakers. Some of these evangelists traveled for several miles to help us in this effort for which we will always be grateful. We are confident that the work is off to a good start now, with these adequate facilities and the members of the church willing and ready to work. Two young men were recently baptized. The contribution has increased in the last few weeks. It now averages above $90 a week. Plans are being made for three gospel meetings and a vacation Bible school this year.

Woodruff

OTTIS L. QUALLS, Reporting: Brother Milton S. Parker of Union, will be with us in a meeting May 10-17. Brother Kenneth Willis of Tryon, N. C., will preach in our meeting September 20-27. We plan an out door type cottage meeting to begin in May. Contribution, attendance and interest continues to be very good here. We hope the appointment of elders and deacons is not far in the future. We now have our gospel meetings planned through 1965.

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NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

Marion

M. F. NORWOOD, Reporting: During March six were baptized and one confessed faults.

Plans are progressing for the Fogarty - Bain Tent Evangelistic Campaign set for May 24-June 14. The tent will be located three miles south of Marion on Hwy. 226 near I-40.

Personal workers for house to house visitation are needed for this endeavor. Bed and breakfast can be provided for at least 25. Motels are available for $20 to $35 per week per couple.

Saturday, May 23, an all day Bible reading under the tent will begin at 9:00. Sunday, May 31, there will be a singing at 2:00 followed by a youth meeting at 3:45. We count on the support and prayers of our brethren elsewhere.

Gastonia, Union Rd.

PAUL S. GRAY, Reporting: After May 17 my address will be 1624 Carolina Cir. Gastonia, N. C. as we begin working with the Union Road church. For almost eight years I have been working with the Central church in Clarksburg, W. Va. My wife and I look forward to a pleasant and profitable work with these brethren and also with the other preachers and brethren in the Carolinas. We extend an invitation to all to visit with us in our home or at the services anytime it is convenient. We trust the CAROLINA CHRISTIAN will be a great influence for good throughout the area and that by working together all the churches may be able to accomplish much to the glory of God and the salvation of souls. May we all work toward that end.

Rockingham

PAT DAWKINS, Reporting: The church here in continually growing. Five recently obeyed the gospel. One was during the lectures and four the following Sunday.

Much soul searching has entered the hearts of all of us as a result of the fine lessons heard during the lectures. Anyone missing such an occasion has missed a lot of good spiritual food. Let us all begin making plans to attend the lectures in 1965.

Bill G. Smith, the minister here, recently began a series of lessons and film strips on mission work. April 12 a lesson was presented on the work in Pakistan. Apr. 19 a lesson was presented on Korea. These lessons are very effective.

On April 5 the meeting time was changed from 6:30 to 7:30 on Sunday evening. A song practice is being conducted at 7:00. A visitation program began in March and much good is resulting.

Gastonia

T. C. GALLOWAY, Reporting: We are happy to report that work here continues to grow with three baptisms thus far for the month of April. We also exceeded our goal of $275 in contributions. Interest and attendance remain good with an average attendance of 105.

We are anticipating a fruitful gospel meeting with brother Paul S. Gray of Clarksburg, W. Va. in the latter part of May. We invite every interested soul in the Carolinas to attend. We hope you will make plans to assist us in this effort. When visiting in Gastonia, worship with us at 500 Union Road.

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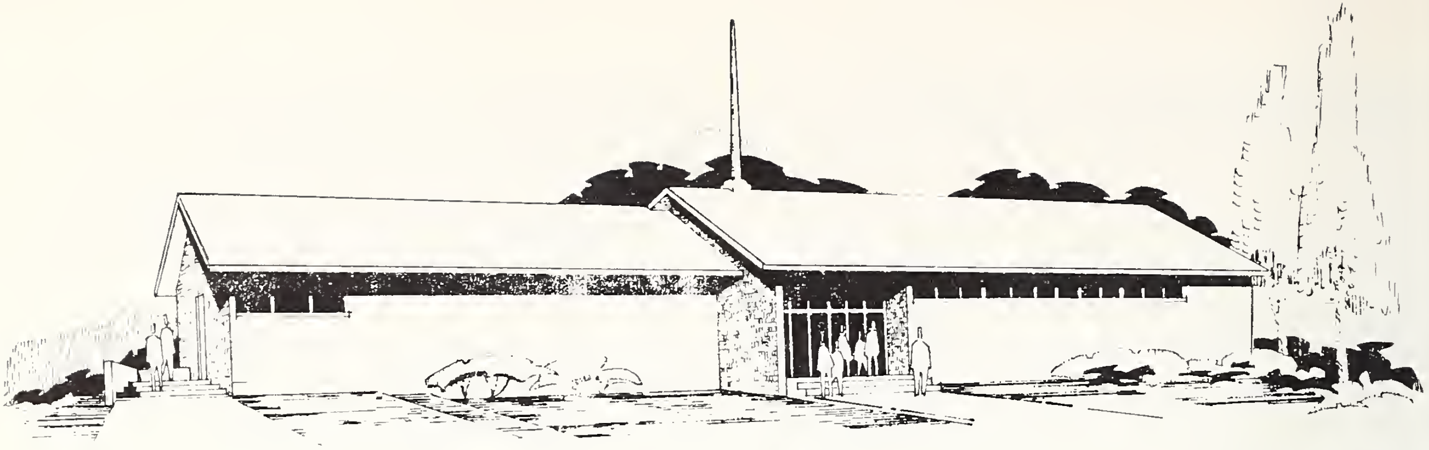
TENT EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN
Marion, N. C.
May 24 - June 14, 1964
7:45 Nightly
Evangelists
ERMON BAIN and JACK FOGARTY
All Day Bible Reading May 30, 9:00 A.M.
Congregational Singing May 31, 2:30 P.M.
Youth Meeting May 31, 3:45 P.M.
Tent Located At
HIGHWAY 226 SOUTH OF MARION
Near I-40



Charlotte, Westside

JOHNNY SEWELL, Reporting: This congregation is now constructing a new church building to be located at 4527 Freedom Dr. The building (pictured above) is being financed by 6% first mortgage bonds of the Security Plan, Inc. and the Paden Construction Co. will handle construction. The total bond issue is $60,000, of which $50,000 have been sold. As construction has already started, we hope to get into our new building around Aug. 1. The building will seat 290, will have eight classrooms, a nursery, study, baptistery and dressing rooms, and will be centrally heated and air conditioned. The church, a little less than two years old, now meets in a converted dwelling at 2651 Rozzells Ferry Rd.

Westside was engaged in a very successful meeting April 12-19 in which Paul M. Tucker, minister of the Crieve Hall church of Christ, Nashville, Tenn., did a most effective work of preaching. The average attendance was 108 with a high of 140. Five were restored and one baptized. In the mornings a Teacher Training Class was conducted by brother Tucker. On the 2nd Sunday a contribution record of $322 was set.

THE HARVEST

To our ears the speakers' words did flow,
Pleading the gospel to take and go.
The world about us is dying in sin,
Brethren, their souls we must win.

The whole lectureship has been on this theme,
Stressing the need of the pure gospel stream.
God needs us the gospel to take,
That we may from sin these souls awake.

The harvest now is ready white,
Let us work while it is light;
For the night does come soon,
When we'll wish we had followed God's tune.

If we fail this harvest to reap,
We will in anguish weap;
For judgment will come, and alas!
In God's sight we have failed to pass.

(By J. H. Blackman, Jr., at the close of the 1964 Carolina Lectures.)

BLUE RIDGE PROGRAM

JUNE 22-26, 1964; THEME: "The Whole Mission of Whole Church to Carry Whole Gospel to Whole World."

MORNING ACTIVITIES - 9:00 Chapel
Tuesday - Ira Rice, "The Gospel Goes to the Far East."
Wednesday - M. Keeble, "The Gospel Goes to Africa."
Thursday - Lucian Palmer, "The Gospel Goes to Europe."
Friday - Dwain Evans, "The Gospel Goes to the United States."
10:00 BIBLE CLASSES
Leslie G. Thomas, "The Millennium and the Battle of Armageddon."
Mrs. Leslie G. Thomas, "Ancient Responsibilities of Modern Woman."
James O. Baird, "Studies in the Ephesian Letter."
Mrs. Leslie Boyd, "Women of the Bible and Their Message for Today."
11:00
Gus Nichols, "Bible Questions and Answers."
C. R. Brewer, "Crises in the Life of Christ."

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES
Sight-seeing Tours - Wayman Love (To be announced.)
4:00 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)
Eddie Couch, Chairman, Missions Workshop.
Fred Mosely, Chairman, Teacher's Workshop.

EVENING ACTIVITIES - 7:00 Special Events - Carolina Preachers
Monday - Leon C. Burns, "The Responsibility of Answered Prayer."
Tuesday - Burl Curtis, Chairman, Panel, "What's Happening in E. Tenn. and the Carolinas."
Wednesday - Carl Lancaster, "Wealth-A Blessing or a Curse."
Thursday - Ray Fullerton, Jr., "Christ Jesus-Lifted Up and Lifting Up."
8:00 Lectures
Monday - John Allen Chalk, "The Great Commission."
Tuesday - Ira North, "Door to Door Evangelism."
Wednesday - Allan Highers, "The Great Commission Executed."
Thursday - George S. Benson, "Missions - Men and Methods."
9:00 - 9:30 Variety
Monday - "Pictorial Tour of the Area."
Tuesday - "Group Singing."
Wednesday - (To be announced.)
Thursday - Stunt Night.
10:00 Fireside Chats by B. C. Goodpasture, Lee Hall Lobby.

OTHER ACTIVITIES
Jimmie Mankin, Chairman, Young People's Program.
Jessie Long, Chairman, Children's Program.
WEDNESDAY - CAROLINA DAY - Let us all go to Blue Ridge and welcome our brethren from other areas.

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Tent Evangelistic Campaign

Marion, N. C.

May 24 - June 14, 1964

7:45 Nightly

Evangelists

ERMON BAIN and JACK FOGARTY

All Day Bible Reading --- May 30, 9:00 AM

Congregational Singing --- May 31, 2:30 PM

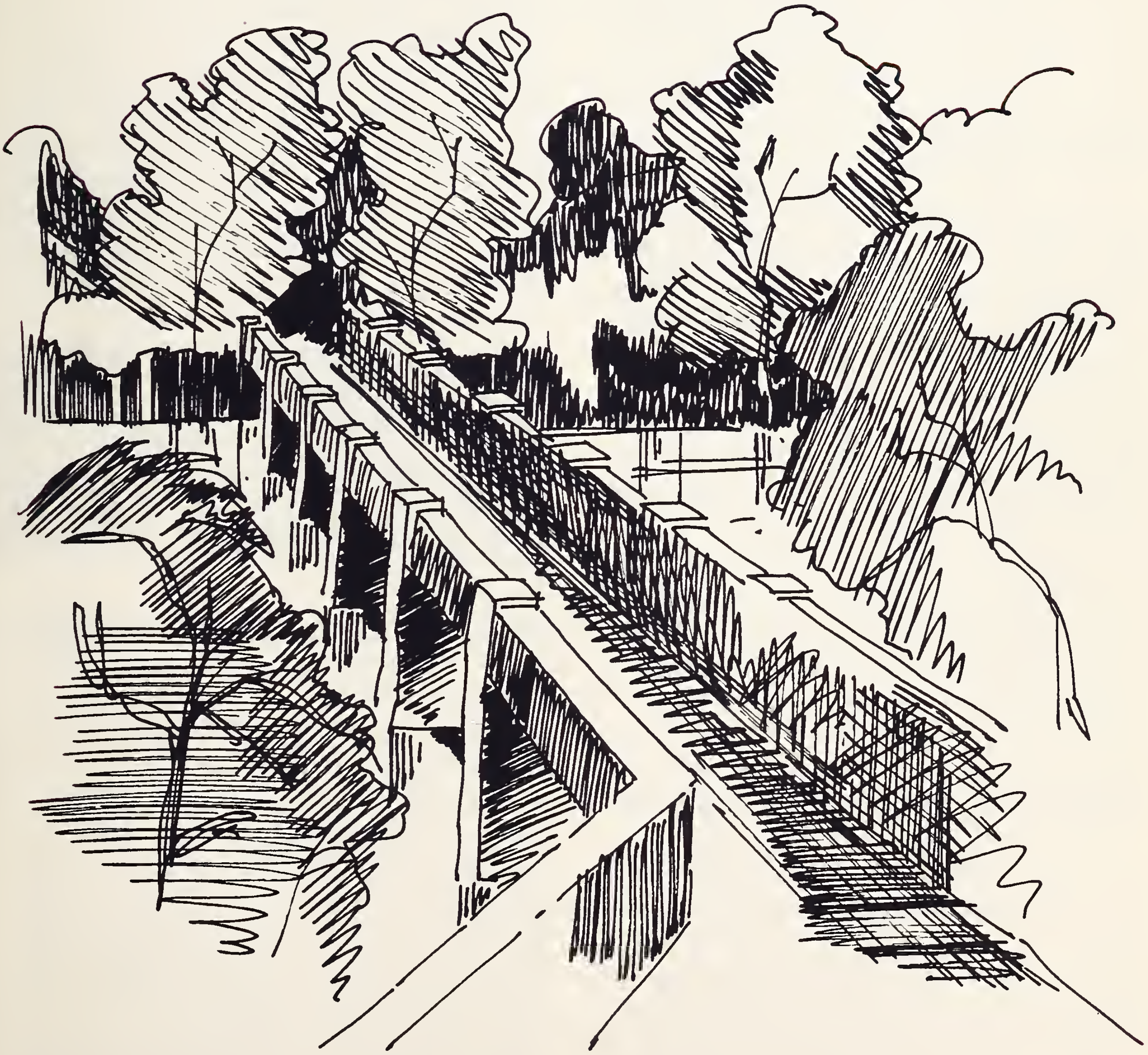
Youth Meeting ---------- May 31, 3:45 PM

Tent Located At

Highway 226 South Of Marion

Near I-40

carolina CHRISTIAN



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JUNE, 1964 VOLUME 6, NUMBER 6

EDITORIAL

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C.

We commend to you this special issue of the Carolina Christian on MODERN THREATS. We compliment all the articles and their authors but especially we would like to call attention to Joe Costilow's approach to the problem we have of preaching the gospel to every creature. He calls it the threat of GRADUALISM. Do we have the faith to preach the good news to everyone? We have the manpower so why do we wait? The time is NOW for us to carry out the command of Christ. Who will lead and who will follow? Who is not too busy to do it? Without doubt, the Lord will help us. Our plans must grow big enough to include every person on earth.

BLUE RIDGE

Including the "Greenville Singers," approximately 45 people from the Carolinas will appear on the Blue Ridge program this month. We hope that the attendance from both North and South Carolina will be much, much better than it has ever been before. If you have not already made plans to attend, you will still have time. Surely, you need to make every effort to be present on CAROLINA DAY, Wednesday, June 24.

Remember to bring your displays and line the walls of Lee Hall. They need not be expensive; just something to get your message across. There is no charge for this space.

Welcome, News Editors

We welcome Richard Harp as South Carolina News Editor and Tony Forrest for North Carolina. They are both very fine men and we are happy to have them on the staff. Please give them your best cooperation. Let us make the news columns even more useful.

1965 Carolina Lectures

The Northeast church in Greenville has decided to have the lectures the first week in April, 1965. Please reserve the dates 5-9 and make your plans to attend. We expect to have plenty of housing for everyone who can attend.

Campaign At Northeast

A group of workers from the Belmont Ave. congregation in Nashville will assist the Northeast church in Greenville in a "Campaign for Souls," August 22-30.

One of the highlights of the effort will be the daily ladies' class taught by Wilma Folwell of Nashville. Sister Folwell is one of the most sought-after women teachers in the nation. She has taught classes at Abilene Christian College, Abilene, Texas, George Pepperdine College, Los Angeles, California, and at the Granny White church in Nashville. Ladies within driving distance will want to attend each one of these classes.

carolina
CHRISTIAN

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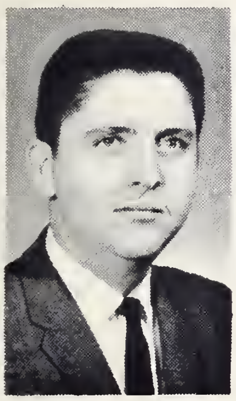
ABSENTEEISM

Virgil L. Hale, Whiteville, N. C.



That ABSENTEEISM is a tremendous problem facing the church of our Lord is a fact too evident to be denied. In the outset of this study may I emphasize what I mean by ABSENTEEISM. I am referring to the practice of many members absenting themselves from the services of the church on occasions when they are not providentially hindered. It seems that far too many people look on the worship services as just some place to go if it is convenient rather than a great privilege that they would enjoy, and appreciate. After observing this problem in many congregations through the years, I am convinced that it exists due to a lack of people being completely converted to the Lord. The strength of any congregation rests in these who can be counted on to be present at every service. People who love the Lord, as they should, look forward to every service with great anticipation and certainly do not have to be admonished over and over again to come. It is a shame that preachers are requred to give so much of their time trying to encourage members to faithfulness when this time could and should be used in trying to reach alien sinners with the gospel.

Many contend that they have a genuine love for the Lord and yet attend but one service per week, and think nothing of missing then if something else comes up. While we should be putting Christ first, others second, and ourselves last, many have this in reverse. They put themselves first, others second, and then if time permits, they will devote a few minutes each week to the Lord. Jesus told us to "seek ye first the kingdom of God." (Matthew 6:33.) In reality many of us want to give the Lord the leftovers or scraps, but He demands first place or none. We expect the Lord to accept what is left of our time, talents, and possessions after we have gotten through using them for our own selfish ends. As stated above, it is a lack of love for the Lord which brings about such an attitude. The man who loves his family will do all that he can for them and not see how little he can do. Furthermore, he desires to be with as much as possible rather than as little as he can get by with. The same is true in our relationship to the Lord. If we love Him, we want to be in His presence and worship Him as much as we possibly can, and do all that we have the ability to do for his cause. When we do something for the Lord we are saying, "I love you this much, Lord." When we are absent from many of the services of the church, we in reality are saying, "This is all that I love you, Lord, and I do not desire to worship you more." Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20.) Do you believe this statement of our Lord? If Christ were present in person, would you forsake the assembling? I believe He will keep His promise. Can we afford to be absent ourselves? We must be "abounding in the work of the Lord" if we would please Him. (1 Corinthians 15:58.)

I made an alarming discovery while reading the latest edition of the Carolina Directory. I discovered that 21 congregations in the Carolinas had fewer in attendance per Sunday last year than the membership totalled. Others are listed as having only the same number in attendance as the members total. When we stop to realize that a number of small children help to make these attendance averages, we are made to see just how great a problem ABSENTEEISM really is. How can we expect to reach people with the gospel when so many members are indifferent themselves? When we are faithful in attendance we not only show the Lord that we love Him and show the world that the Lord and His cause is the greatest thing in all of the world, but we help encourage one another to more faithfulness.

When we absent ourselves from services, we are missing the great privilege of worship with those of like prec — ious faith." We deny ourselves of the teaching and admonition that singing gives (Colossians 3:16): we deny ourselves of the supper which Christ left as a memorial to Him and commands us to take (1 Corinthians 11:25); we fail to remember the Lord's death and suffering as we should (Luke 22 : 19); we fail to show forth the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26); in failing to do these things we die spiritually (John 6:53); we fail to return a portion of the Lord's possessions to Him in our giving (1 Corinthians 16:1-2); we depri ourselves the privilege of studying the word of God together and praying together. Can you honestly say that these things are unnecessary to the Christian? Do you feel like the Lord make a mistake when He commanded them? Since they are commands, do you think that you can overlook these commands and still please the Lord? May I challenge your most serious deliberation on these thoughts. I am persuaded that a lack of proper evaluation of the above scriptures is greatly responsible for the problem of ABSENTEEISM being as great as it is.

Note carefully Hebrews 10:25-31. Many try to discard these verses as having no bearing on the subject under consideration, but those who do are only trying to evade the issue. How anyone can read these verses and fail to get the impact of what is taught is beyond my comprehension. However, many only want to apply verse 25 to the subject we are studying, but if you will notice these verses carefully, you can see that they are all dealing with the same subject.

Verse 25 reads, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is..." The word forsake means: "to renounce, to quit or leave entirely; to desert." With this definition before us, let us look at verse 26 and see precisely what it teaches. "For if we sin wilfully..." This means to wilfully forsake the assembling, and in reality that is the only way that we can forsake it, because we are not forsaking when we are sick or otherwise providentially hindered. This discussion is confined to those who stay away because they desire to and not because they are hindered. Verse 27 shows the future of those who so live. Judgment and firey indignation shall be theirs in the hereafter. Verse 29 points out just how serious the matter of wilfully forsaking the assembling really is. Those guilty have "trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace." Could anything be more serious? In view of this, how can people say that it isn't really important to attend every service of the church? Now notice verse 30: "For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people." If this isn't referring to the preceding verses, to what is it referring? It very plainly says that "the Lord shall judge his people." "His people refers to Christians, members of the Lord's church, because they are the only ones who belong to the Lord, having been bought with the blood of Christ. (Acts 20:28; Ephesians 5:25.) As is stated in verse 31, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Naturally, this means that it is fearful if we are unprepared, because if we are prepared it will be a glorious occasion.

(see page 12)

INDIFFERENCE

Paul E. Sikes, Greensboro, N. C.

"IS IT NOTHING TO YOU, ALL YE THAT PASS BY?" (Lamentations 1:12.) Over twenty five hundred years ago Jeremiah pictured a ruined and desolate Jerusalem crying out at the indifference of the passers by to whom the desecration of the once proud and holy city was of no account. That lamentation has echoed down the ages and God's messengers have never ceased to be distressed at the lack of concern for holy things manifest on every hand. The church itself is many times rife with it. We are indifferent to the problems and burdens of our brethren, to the suffering of the poor, to the lost condition of the world. We do not convert sinners because we have been too indifferent to prepare ourselves to teach them. We succumb to temptations because we have been to indifferent to discipline ourselves beforehand to withstand them. We fail to help bear one another's burdens because we are not enough interested in our brethren to ascertain what burdens they have. Like Gallio, little realizing that our very souls are at stake; we "care for none of these things." (Acts 18:17.)

Since the fact of indifference is unarguable, it is with the reasons for its existence that we must concern ourselves. Though many reasons may be given for the "why" of indifference, I feel that most of them can be comprehended in these five - ignorance, self-satisfaction, laziness, weariness and unbelief.

"MY PEOPLE ARE DESTROYED FOR LACK OF KNOWLEDGE." (Hosea 4:6a); "WHERE THERE IS NO VISION THE PEOPLE PERISH." (Proverbs 29:19a); "THE OX KNOWETH HIS OWNER, AND THE ASS HIS MASTER'S CRIB: BUT ISRAEL DOTH NOT KNOW, MY PEOPLE DOTH NOT CONSIDER." (Isaiah 1:3.) Ignorance and indifference form a never ending cycle, ignorance leading to indifference and indifference in turn to more ignorance. We are indifferent many times to our opportunities because we do not realize that they exist. We do not attempt to ferret out the spiritually and physically hungry, and naked, and blind. If they are not glaringly obvious, we in our complacency assume that they do not exist - at least not geographically near enough for any personal contact. We cannot see because we blind ourselves, hiding our heads in the sands of our own little group. We are indifferent toward the future of the church because we do not have the wisdom and the vision to plan for it, and have forgotten that we are told that "if any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." (James 1:5.) We are indifferent to our own spiritual danger because we are ignorant of our true spiritual state, and like the Laodiceans know not that (spiritually) "we are wretched, and miserable, and poor and blind and naked."

"SO THEN BECAUSE THOU ART LUKEWARM, AND NEITHER COLD NOR HOT, I WILL SPUE THEE OUT OF MY MOUTH. BECAUSE THOU SAYEST, I AM RICH, AND INCREASED WITH GOODS, AND HAVE NEED OF NOTHING..." (Revelation 3:16 - 17a.) No doubt even more indifference is due to self-satisfaction than to ignorance. We are indifferent to God and His word because we feel sufficient within ourselves to take care of all our necessities. Our material needs are, if not amply, at least reasonably confortably supplied, and we say in our hearts, "My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth," (Deuteronomy 8:17) and do not remember that it is the Lord our God who gives us power to get wealth and is the author of all our blessings. It is only when some catastrophe overtakes us in which we are forced to recognize our helplessness that we begin to call upon Him. We see this over and over during times of sickness or sorrow, and ironically those who are most indifferent during times of prosperity often cry loudest to God in distress. God is not a God to be used for our own benefit in times of trouble and completely neglected at all other times. He wants our whole allegiance or none. Indifference is so nauseating to Him that He will spue us out of His mouth.

This same self-centeredness which causes us to feel no need of God also causes us to be indifferent to the needs, whether material or spiritual, of our fellow man. As long as we are not directly affected (or are not conscious of being so) we complacently pass by on the other side. As long as those who have never heard of Christ are on the other side of the world we can avert our eyes and think of pleasanter things. As long as we are not aware of any specific family who needs our help we can pretend that none exist, and go blithely on our way providing only for our own. If we do not take self out of the place of supremacy in our lives we must not be surprised if indifference to God and others reigns along with him.

"MY FATHER WORKETH UNTIL NOW AND I WORK. (John 5:17.) A third major cause of indifference is sheer laziness. We just cannot be bothered. We see the need. Intellectually we admit our responsibility to do what we can to alleviate it, but we cannot muster up enough energy or will power to get started doing anything about it. We are just too lazy to study God's word, to attend services, to encourage the brethren, to do that little extra bit to help the needy, to collect clothing for the poor, to carry out suggestions for improving the physical plant, or any other work that we can easily see needs to be done. We forget that we are to be following in the steps of Christ who said, "My father worketh until now and I work." This indifference resulting from laziness is harder to combat than that resulting from ignorance, because once one who has been blind can be made to see he may be moved to act, but when one, seeing clearly, is too sluggish to respond, it is indeed hard to overcome indifference and inspire him to be "not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work."

"AND LET US NOT BE WEARY IN WELL-DOING: FOR IN DUE SEASON WE SHALL REAP, IF WE FAINT NOT." (Galatians 6:9.) Another factor contributing to much indifference is just plain weariness. We are simply too tired to respond the way we know that we should. I am not speaking of an imaginary or "psychological" tiredness (though such exist), but the state of almost utter exhaustion to which we sometimes reduce ourselves by dissipating our energies in trying to do everything our community or society expects of us. These may not be bad, and may even be good things in themselves, but whenever we allow them to usurp the time and energy that should belong to the Lord we are not relegating them to their rightful places and are wearying ourselves with what in the long run will be of no profit. We should take careful stock, putting God's work in first place in our lives and, so allocating our time that we will no longer be so worn out with our secular affairs that we cannot attend to the affairs of God.

We may also be inclined to weariness in well doing, and consequently to indifference, because we see no visible results though our efforts may have been long and untiring, our work unstinted. But let us remember that He is faithful who has promised that in "due season we shall reap if we faint not."

"BECAUSE SENTENCE AGAINST AN EVIL WORK IS NOT EXECUTED SPEEDILY, THEREFORE THE HEART

(see page 12)

THE THREAT OF MODERNISM

Joe Costilow, Rocky Mount, N. C.

Some equate the term solely with theology. Others apply it strictly to religious externals. Still others use it in an inclusive sense making it apply to both. Actually, MODERNISM **is a rather** ambiguous term and, I suppose, in the final analysis must be defined from an individual frame of reference, But, for the sake of this article, let us define MODERNISM as being any CONTEMPORARY FORCE which tends to move the church-however slightly-away from the Bible in matters pertaining to its faith and practice.

The changing THEOLOGICAL CONCEPTS of our day pose a grave threat to the church. DENOMINATIONALISM, while old, is still a CONTEMPORARY FORCE and as such is a MODERN threat to the church. Having played "catch-up" to the denominations in so many many legitimate things for so long, the church now seems on the verge of venturing forth into the QUESTIONABLE and UNSCRIPTURAL practices of denominationalism.

Another danger confronting the church the church is a product of our MODERN times - the "ecumenical movements" extant in religious circles throughout the world. The amalgamation of religious groups, the talk of unity, and the overtures of opposing religious forces for "unity conferences," tend to create within the minds of many Christians a kind of TOLERANCE that is not conducive to an adamant stand for the ONE-CHURCH doctrine of the New Testament. (Cf. Ephesians 1:22, 23 and 4:1-6.)

In addition to these THREATS to the church which could be classified as MODERNISM must come, of course, Extremeism, Materialism, Institutionalism, Professionalism, and many others. The list is long and the danger is great. However, the situation is not hopeless. Though the forces of Satan are formidable, all is not lost. Even as we think of these dangers we are reminded of the forces opposing them. The brotherhood papers and magazines are waging a constant battle; from most of the pulpits of the church flow timely warnings; for almost every THREAT to the church there is a group of dedicated Christians who deem it their PERSONAL responsibility to slay that particular foe. In spite of these efforts the unthinking will be swayed, the unwary befuddled, and the ignorant trapped.

But there is ONE THREAT to the church today which DOES NOT fit into the former category. It receives little if any SPECIFIC mention in the brotherhood press. And, if it has any foe who has made it a PERSONAL "vendetta," he is as a "voice crying in the wilderness."

This THREAT is many-fold more dangerous than the others because of its insidious nature; because it is not recognized for what it is. It is a THREAT which has made great inroads into the body of Christ; which is responsible for millions of people dying without hearing the soul-saving GOSPEL of Christ. This THREAT is the predisposition of the church to GRADUALISM in carrying the gospel to EVERY nation and EVERY creature in the world. (Cf. Matthew 28:19, 20 and Mark 16:15, 16.)

We wonder sometimes if Christians in general have ANY idea of the MAGNITUDE of the task which faces them. J. B. Williams of the Sudan Interior Mission said recently, "Today ONE

BILLION souls have yet to hear that Christ died for their sins. 65% of the people of the world have never heard what happened at Calvary. Souls are dying at the rate of 100,000 PER DAY. The heathern world is increasing at the rate of 400 MILLION each generation. 2,000 years after Christ there are More people who have NEVER heard the name of Jesus than there were in the hour in which he was born." (Accent in the foregoing quote is mine.) In addition to this the American Bible Society, in statistics published this past January, informs us that, although the Scriptures have been translated into more than 1,200 languages and dialects, there remain well over 1,000 mutually unintelligible languages which have nothing of the Bible. And not this! ONLY 228 languages have the ENTIRE Bible and ONLY 285 more have the ENTIRE New Testament. If we can comprehend these figures we have some idea of the job facing the church. Yet we find the church devoting most of its resources, both physical and financial, in areas where the church is strong or where men and women have heard of Christ and have available to them the ENTIRE word of God.

There are 130 nations in the world today, give or take a half-dozen. It has taken the church almost a hundred years to place missionaries in a little over half of these. In most countries where the church is represented there is ONLY ONE missionary; in some more than one; in a very few there are several. But all told, including wives, there are only about 250 workers in the foreign field. If the church works TWICE as hard in the future as in the past it will still take ANOTHER generation to put at least ONE missionary in EVERY nation of the world. In the meantime souls are DYING at the rate of 100,000 PER DAY! And by far the greatest portion of these are in the nations which do not have Christ.

From 1901 to 1960 the world population increased by 839 MILLION. In the same period the church grew from a few thousand New Testament Christians to something over two and a half million. A comparison of these figures makes it obvious that, if the spirit of GRADUALISM which permeates the church persists, it will never allow the church to reach a very large segment of the EXPANDING world population with the message of Christ. If the church continues to be "menders of nets" instead of "fishers of men" it will NEVER accomplish its mission; if it continues to be absorbed with expediencies and incidentals to its PRIMARY purpose, it will NEVER make known the "manifold wisdom of God." (Ephesians 3:10.)

The tragedy is that the spirit of GRADUALISM is increasing! This is manifest in the ever more costly "meeting houses" being built - with their multiplicity of expensive acoutrements which serve no functional purpose as far as preaching and teaching are concerned. It's manifest in the growing numbers of EXPERIENCED preachers who absolutely refuse to leave the areas where the church is strong to help where it is weak. It is manifest in the fact that, with over 18,000 congregations of the church, some nearly 10,000 of them are without a regular preacher. It is manifest in the growing number of preachers who are either leaving a successful work, or are limiting their preaching, in order to get more DEGREES. It is manifest in the growing number. It is manifest in the MATERIALISTIC thinking of Christians. It's manifest in the REFUSAL of the body of Christ IN GENERAL to engage in PERSONAL evangelism as the first century Christians did. (See Acts 8:4.)

There can be no doubt that there has been a restoration of the first century concept of New Testament "worship" and "doctrine." There has been a restoration of the first century "organization" of the church. But there has been NO RESTORATION of the first century

(see page 11)

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.

O. P. BAIRD, SEOUL, KOREA, writes, "If you could see the ill-clad and near starving people that come asking for help, some of them sick and seeking treatment at our clinic, it would make you all the more glad that you have sent help for them. Only yesterday a woman came with a starving baby in her arms. It was pitifully thin with its abdomen extended, which is a sure sign of starvation. We were glad that we could furnish some milk for it. We are particularly happy of course, to see the gospel continuing to bear fruit as people are brough to Christ." Letter mail for this work can be addressed to: Church of Christ Mission, APO 301, San Francisco, California.

GEORGE W. DEHOFF, President from the beginning in 1957 of Magic Valley Christian College, Albion, Idaho, resigned effective June 6.

GORDON HOGAN reports from PAKISTAN, "Shortly after becoming a Christian, Tufail Hussain, a 23 year old school teacher returned to his home village and began teaching the Bible. In due time he asked me to visit his village and preach for a day. The area we were to visit is about 50 miles from Lahore, and on this occasion the trails were almost beyond description. Because this is the dry season the trails were reduced to dust 4 or 5 inches deep which is of the consistency of flour. At the appointed time a good crowd of about 120 gathered for the preaching service. Tufail had done his work well, for at the conclusion of the sermon 18 indicated their desire to be baptized." The government of PAKISTAN is presently building a new capital city which will have almost immediately a population of 1 million. JAMES CARTER has agreed to serve as an evangelist in the new capital and is now making preparations for the trip.

ERNEST ESTEVEZ writes from CUBA that the government has passed a number of strict regulations in reference to religious activities. The regulations require all places of worship to be registered with the government with meetings in private homes forbidden. "This has been a severe blow to our work, as lacking houses of worship, most of our congregations meet in private homes," ESTEVEZ states. In some places the brethren have been left unmolested; in others they have been threatened.

The SEMINAR IN MISSIONS at the HARDING GRADUATE SCHOOL OF RELIGION in Memphis, Tenn. (July 21 - August 14) will feature GEORGE S. BENSON (CHINA), OTIS GATEWOOD (GERMANY), GEORGE GURGANUS (JAPAN), LUCIAN PALMER (NIGERIA), ABE MALHERBE (SOUTH AFRICA), J. D. BALES, DEWAYNE DAVENPORT (GHANA) and IRA Y. RICE, JR. (MALAYSIA).

The twin cities of MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA will be the target of the first CAMPAIGN FOR CHRIST under the auspices of the VANDELIA VILLAGE church of Lubbock, Texas. The dates are July 26-August 14. THOMAS B. WARREN of Ft. Worth will preach and some 40 workers from various places will assist local Christians in door-to-door evangelism. There are five congregations in the twin cities area and 16 in the entire state. The total membership of the church in Minnesota numbers approximately 550.

Negotiations are underway for WORLD RADIO to acquire its first stations. The WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA CHURCH which sponsors WORLD RADIO plans to build stations around the world for the preaching of the gospel. The stations now under consideration will beam to South America. The RUSSIA FOR CHRIST broadcasts are now a part of WORLD RADIO, and being directed behind the Iron Curtain.

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP—GIVING

Howard Winters, Wilmington, N. C.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive," said our Lord, according to Paul in Acts 20:35. Herein lies the secret of giving, the motive of giving, the power of giving, and true character of giving, and, I fear, the lesson of giving most often overlooked. We generally give, and teachers generally emphasize giving in order to help those in need, but we often overlook the fact that the giver is benefited or blessed more than the receiver. We might well paraphrase Shakespeare's famous words on mercy by saying,

> The quality of giving is not strain'd
> It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
> Upon the place beneath: it is twice bless'd
> It blesseth him that gives and him that takes.

But "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

With this fact indelibly printed on our minds, let us study some of the things the Bible teaches the Christian concerning giving. Our study falls under two headings: I. How giving is not to be done, and II. How giving is to be done.

I. HOW GIVING IS NOT TO BE DONE

1. Giving is not to be done sparingly. "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly." (2 Cor. 9:6.) One cannot expect to sow seed sparingly and then reap a bountiful harvest--we reap in proportion to what we sow. Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." (Gal. 6:7.)

2. Giving is not to be done grudgingly. See 2 Cor. 9:7. It would probably be better not to give at all than to give grudgingly--it is the giver the Lord is interested in and not necessarily the gift. Without the heart of the giver the gift is cold and unacceptable.

3. Giving is not to be done by necessity. See 2 Cor. 9:7. That is, the law, under the New Testament system, does not bind a certain amount--we are not under compulsion by law to give. Paul said, according to Phillips' translation, "I should like it to be a spontaneous gift, and not money squeezed out of you by what I have said." (2 Cor. 9:5.) Thus when a Christian gives, he is to give out of love and not out of necessity.

II. HOW GIVING IS TO BE DONE

1. Giving is to be done bountifully. "... ..He which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." (2 Cor. 9:6.) Bountiful giving is simply generous giving. And since we are blessed in proportion to our giving, bountiful giving means generous blessings. "He that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." (Gal. 6:8.)

2. Giving is to be done willingly. "For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not." (2 Cor. 8:12.) Goodspeed translates this verse as follows: "If a man is willing to give, the value of his gift is in its proportion to what he has, not to what he has not." God sees the whole situation and blesses man according to his attitudes and not according to the amount of his gift. Thus the widow, by casting in two mites into the treasury, had "cast in more than they all." See Luke 21:1-4.

3. Giving must be done cheerfully. See 2 Cor. 9:7. Giving would be done much more cheerfully by all if we fully understood and appreciated the fact that we have learned, viz., that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." Giving is twice blessed: it blesses both the giver and the receiver. Thus in giving we get double our money's worth--what a bargain! How cheerful then we ought to give!

4. Giving is to be done purposely. See 2 Cor. 9:7. Purposed giving means planned giving. How much are we going to give

to the Lord's cause this week, this month, this year? If we are unable to answer this question, it is time to purpose. I am not saying that we must plan or purpose our giving a year, or even a month, in advance. It is not significant as to whether we plan it weekly, monthly, or annually, but it is significant that we plan it--and then execute our plans.

5. Giving is to be done as we have prospered. See I Cor. 16:2. This suggests proportionate giving--giving that corresponds to the amount earned. If we put "giving as purposed" and "giving as prospered" together we simply have a purposing to give a certain amount (the Lord has left it up to us to determine for ourselves the exact percentage)of that which the Lord has prospered us. What percentage then of what we have been prospered should we give? The Lord has not specified the amount. After telling us that "it is more blessed to give than to receive" He left the question for each individual to answer. Our blessings come in direct proportion to our giving. How much then should we give?

6. Giving must be done by everyone. "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give." (2 Cor. 9:7.) "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." (I Cor. 16:2.) When everyone gives as prospered there will be an equality in our giving. See 2 Cor. 8:14. When there is equality in our giving all needs will be met. When all needs are met there will be an abundance of blessings. When there are blessings God's kingdom is perfected in us.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

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THREAT (cont'd)

SENSE OF URGENCY in getting the gospel to EVERY creature; the church has not caught the first century Christian's sense of PERSONAL responsibility for saving lost souls. It has, in effect, become so involved with "mint, anise, and cummin" that it has largely "omitted weightier matters..." And the words of our Lord ring crystal clear; "These ought ye to have done, and NOT left the other UNDONE." (See Matthew 23:23.)

The time is here for the church to re-evaluate its purpose and mission. The time has come for Christians to ask themselves why they were "created new creatures in Christ." Was it to build bigger, fancier church buildings? Was it to build and operate colleges? Was it to establish and support newspapers and magazines? Was it to raise money to support various METHODS of preaching the gospel; to which METHODS Christians have largely SHIFTED their responsibility as INDIVIDUALS? Was it for one or more of a dozen other things with which the brotherhood has become so captivated today? People can go to heaven without any of these things! But if it's true that another soul begins its voyage into ETERNITY every time one draws a breath, then it's axiomatic that multitudes ARE NOT going to heaven with them!

However, this is not to say that all these things are WRONG. We could build a GOOD case for the desirability- even the NECESSITY - of all of them. But the point is, no one can build any case at all for NOT preaching the gospel to EVERY creature in EVERY nation as QUICKLY as possible. No one can build any case at all for the idea that God is pleased with the church's GRADUAL approach to the great task He has given it. So it's time the church became aware of this MODERN threat threat which confronts it - the spirit of GRADUALISM - and begins to do all in its power to overcome it.

ABSENTEEISM (cont'd)

After studying these passages can you still contend, honestly, that assembling with the saints is not important?

Let us notice once again these reasons why we should attend. First, the Lord demands it; we assemble because we love the Lord and want to worship and serve Him; the Lord is present with us; we help and encourage one another in living the Christian life; we show to the world that Christ and His cause mean something to us; and we assemble because we enjoy this great privilege. Actually, unless we do enjoy assembling for worship, we need to examine ourselves because something is wrong. If singing praises to the Lord, praying, studying His word, returning a portion of your many blessings to Him, and remembering the great sacrifice of Christ on the Cross is a burden to you rather than a joy, you need to heed Paul's admonition to "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves..." (2 Corinthians 13:5.) May we all say with David: "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord." (Psalms 122:1.)

INDIFFERENCE (cont'd)

OF THE SONS OF MEN IS FULLY SET IN THEM TO DO EVIL." (Ecclesiastes 8:11.) "AND THEY CONSIDER NOT IN THEIR HEARTS THAT I REMEMBER ALL THEIR WICKEDNESS..." (Hosea 7:2.) Last, much indifference stems simply from unbelief. Though we may give lip service to God, judgement seems a long way off, and we are not emotionally convinced of its reality and and its terror. "Someday" we will give more heed to our duty but right now we have too many pleasant things with which to concern ourselves. Our love for the Lord and His word is not strong enough, our faith is not living enough, for us to find our pleasure and our life in Him. Our lack of works (i.e. our indifference to work that needs to be done) is an indication of our lack of faith. We believe when it is convenient for us but not when our comfort is in any way threatened. May we awake in time and truly have faith in the God of all comfort who alone can bless us with true peace, for "to be spiritually minded is life and peace." (Romans 8:6.)

INDIFFERENCE

When Jesus came to Golgotha they hanged Him on a tree,
They drove great nails through His hands and feet, and made a Calvary:
They crowned Him with a crown of thorns, red were His wounds and deep.
For those were crude and cruel days and human life was cheap.

But when Jesus came to Birmingham they simply passed Him by,
They never hurt a hair of Him, they only let Him die;
For men had grown more tender, and they would not give Him pain,
They only just passed down the street, and left Him in the rain.

Still Jesus cried, "Forgive them for they know not what they do,"
And still it rained the winter rain that drenched Him through and through;
The crowds went home and left the streets without a soul to see,
And Jesus crouched against a wall and cried for Calvary.

G. A. Studdert-Kennedy
(Quoted in Evangelistic Sermon Outlines, Burris Butler, The Standard Publishing Company, 1962, P. 12.)

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CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

Richard Harp, S. C. News Editor
Box 134, Lancaster, S. C.

Tony Forrest, N. C. News Editor
Box 714, Taylorsville, N. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

I count it a privilege to have been asked recently to work with the Carolina Christian as news editor. Certainly, all will agree that this publication is valuable to the church in the Carolinas. The Biblical lessons written each month by our brethren present the challenges necessary to keep us on the march for the Lord. We should be encouraged by the reading of each issue.

My task is to emphasize the "Carolina Church News" section of the paper. One of the main reasons many have subscribed is that it gives them an up to date progress report of the church at work in the Carolinas. If you have had new souls added to the Lord or erring members restored, there are other Christians who would be happy to rejoice with you. Plans for gospel meetings, vacation Bible schools, new Bible classes, new records set, benevolence programs, etc. reported regularly will show that we are concerned with our work and would appreciate the interest and prayers of others. Most every congregation would have worthy news items to submit each month if a little time was given to it.

We encourage you to begin now--this week--getting your news in for the July issue. It must be sent to me by the 15th of the month to be printed in the following issue. I will endeavor to do the best I can as news editor, however, any suggestion you may have to improve this part of the Carolina Christian will be appreciated. May the Lord bless us all who are seeking to serve Him.

Lancaster

RICHARD HARP, Reporting: There have been four baptisms and two restorations at Lancaster this past month. We had a record contribution of $128.00 on May 3. The bad news, we regret to report, is the loss of three families this summer. A family of six moved in May, a family of five will leave in June, and two others plan to move in August. We cannot begin to express the sorrow of the congregation for the loss of these people. They have meant much to our progress at Lancaster.

Union

MILTON PARKER, Reporting: Our meeting in March in which T. A. Isaacs did the preaching was well attended. Several confessed sins and the church was made stronger. In April three were baptized. Our next meeting here will be in September with Roy Burgess.

Sumter

HAROLD SIMMINS, Reporting: Our VBS and gospel meeting will be June 21-26. A group from the Old Hickory, Tennessee church, which helps support the work here, will come and canvas the town distributing tracts and also conducting the VBS. John Holland, the minister at Old Hickory, will do the preaching in the meeting. We are looking forward to this great meeting. Come and be with us.

I will be leaving the work here in August. No one has been named to succeed me. Anyone who might be interested may write to Roscoe Newton, P. O. Box 1378, Sumter, S. C. Those who oppose the "Herald of Truth" and church supported orphan homes need not apply.

One was baptized last Lord's Day evening. Pray for the work here.

Clinton

U. A. HALL, Reporting: The month of April was an off month here at Clinton.

Several were out because of sickness. Our averages were: Sunday school, 18, A. M. worship 20, P. M. worship 17, Thursday night Bible study 17, and collection $69.28. We received 12 benches and other things we can use from Greenville, N. C. and we are so thankful to the brethren there for this. Also, we have received some help on our building debt. We are looking forward to our meeting in July with Milton Parker doing the preaching.

Greenville, Augusta Road

CARL LANCASTER, Reporting: In recent weeks two have been restored and one was baptized as a result of cottage meetings. VBS is scheduled for July 27-31st.

Greenville, Northeast

BURL CURTIS, Reporting: Our budget of $110 per week proved to be too low so it has now been set at $125. Through April our average has been $123. 68 per week.

We are coming down the "home stretch" in our bond sales. We have about $18,000 left. So far nearly all of our selling has been in the Carolinas. We hope our friends in other areas will help us finish the job.

Our building now has the walls up and the foreman says he believes the roof will be on in two weeks. We hope to use the building the first Sunday in August.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

High Point

JAMES EDWARDS, Reporting: Eight souls responded during the gospel meeting of April 26-May 3, conducted by Bill Perkins of Warners Chapel; and of these eight two were baptized. Following the meeting, during the morning service of May 10th, one soul was restored.

Rockingham

PATRICIA DAWKINS, Reporting: Again our attendance goal has been broken. Mar. 11, 80 were present for the Wednesday night service. The new goal is 95.

A training class for the young men began on May 17 at 7:00. Also, a class on organized personal work will be held after services Sunday night. These classes will be conducted by the minister, Bill Smith.

Since our last report, one soul has renounced all other church affiliations.

Our gospel meeting will begin June 14. Vernon Hogan will be the speaker.

Bill Smith has compiled the following statistics on the recent Carolina Lectureship. Fifty-eight preachers attended and 43 spoke on the program. Two hundred people attended the fellowship dinner. Attendance for the singing class was 97, 101, 81, 175, and 85. Attendance at the evening service was 97, 116, 108, 196, and 115.

Tryon

KENNETH WILLIS, Reporting: The congregation in Portland, Tennessee, assisting in the work here, is sending their minister, Maurice O'Neal, to preach in our meeting June 28-July 3. We anticipate a fruitful meeting at that time. Our fall meeting is scheduled for October 4-11 with Ottis Qualls doing the preaching.

Encouraging reports continue to be received concerning contacts made through our Bible Correspondence Courses. Last year two colored men in prison near Winston-Salem were enrolled in the course; then in February one of the men made known his desire to be baptized. Jerry Richardson, who preaches in Winston-Salem, was contacted and arrangements were made for him to teach a class at the prison on Saturdays. Our latest report on the results is that eleven men have been baptized through brother Richardson's teaching, with seven others desiring to be baptized, and a regular study class being conducted with an attendance of 50 to 65 out of the total 120 prisoners. Also, of encouragement is the fact that arrangements are being made for one of the men to attend Nashville Bible Institute next year for his preparation in preaching the gospel of Christ. Let us pray for our brothers in Christ, and for the good they may accomplish:

Woodleaf

RONNIE L. ULREY, Reporting: We completed a most successful meeting on May 17th. Bill Perkins was the speaker and did a wonderful job of proclaiming the gospel. There was 18 responses to the gospel, 14 baptisms and 4 restorations.

The wonderful work of the members of the church here is to be commended because there were visitors from the community at every service in the meeting. The co-operation of Christians should always be expected but you rarely see it in action as it was during this meeting.

The writer preached at Warners Chapel in Clemmons, N. C. the past two Sundays, filling in for Bill Perkins and there was one young lady, Gaye Dorse, baptized on May 17th.

"And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." (Acts 2:47)

Kinston

N. E. SEWELL, Reporting: We set new attendance records this week with 126 in Bible study and 124 in worship. We plan to add an educational unit to our building in the near future. Arrangements have been made in cooperation with the New Bern and Jacksonville congregations to place the Herald of Truth Television series on WNBE-TV, New Bern, on a commercial basis, beginning in June.

Winston-Salem

CAROLYN ELDRIDGE, Reporting: The South Fork Church of Christ, meeting at 2532 South Hawthorne Road, will begin a new and intensive program of church activity this month. The first Sunday their new minister will be with them, and the second week their Vacation Bible School will begin. Their new minister, T. Pierce Brown, comes to them from the Main St. Church of Christ in Manchester, Tenn., where he served the church there for seven years. Mr. Brown gained international newspaper publicity by pioneering in the use of modern electronic devices in making his ministry more effective.

PUSH-BUTTON DEVICES TO AID IN PREACHING--A series of switches and buttons on the pulpit enables him to illustrate and clarify any point he makes by the use of scriptures and charts projected on a large rear-projection screen behind the pulpit. Mr. Brown hopes to continue the use of such audio visual aids insofar as possible in his new work in Winston-Salem.

In addition to his pioneer work in the field of audio-visual aids, both in preaching and private teaching, he is the author of workbooks on personal evangelism and teacher-training. He has attended the following colleges and universities:Tennessee Polytechnic Institute, Southwest Missouri State Teacher's College, Abilene Christian College, Northwestern University, Garrett Biblical Institute, and Harding College. He finished his B. A. degree in Abilene Christian College, his M. A. at Northwestern University and has done work toward a Ph. D. at Northwestern University. He is now doing work toward a Th. D. in the Graduate School of religion at Harding College.

LONG-RANGE PLANS FOR WORK IN WINSTON-SALEM: Besides the regular preaching for the South Fork Congregation, Mr. Brown hopes to continue intensive work in personal evangelism and teacher-training. He envisions setting up college level Bible classes at the church building, on which college credit may be obtained for any qualified high school graduate. Arrangements have already been made for such work to be accepted by an outstanding college. In addition, other courses, such as New Testament Greek, will be offered if demand permits. These courses will not be offered only to the members of that congregation, but to all interested parties in Winston-Salem. High school students, college students, and even preachers who wish a review of New

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Testament Greek will be invited to come.

LEXINGTON

WALTER E. NEAL, Reporting: The Fairview Church, near Pulaski, Tenn., sent us a good preacher, G. C. Fox, for a short meeting. The attendance was good, and one confessed wrong. Since the meeting two confessed wrong, and a young man was baptized. He one time studied to make a Methodist minister.

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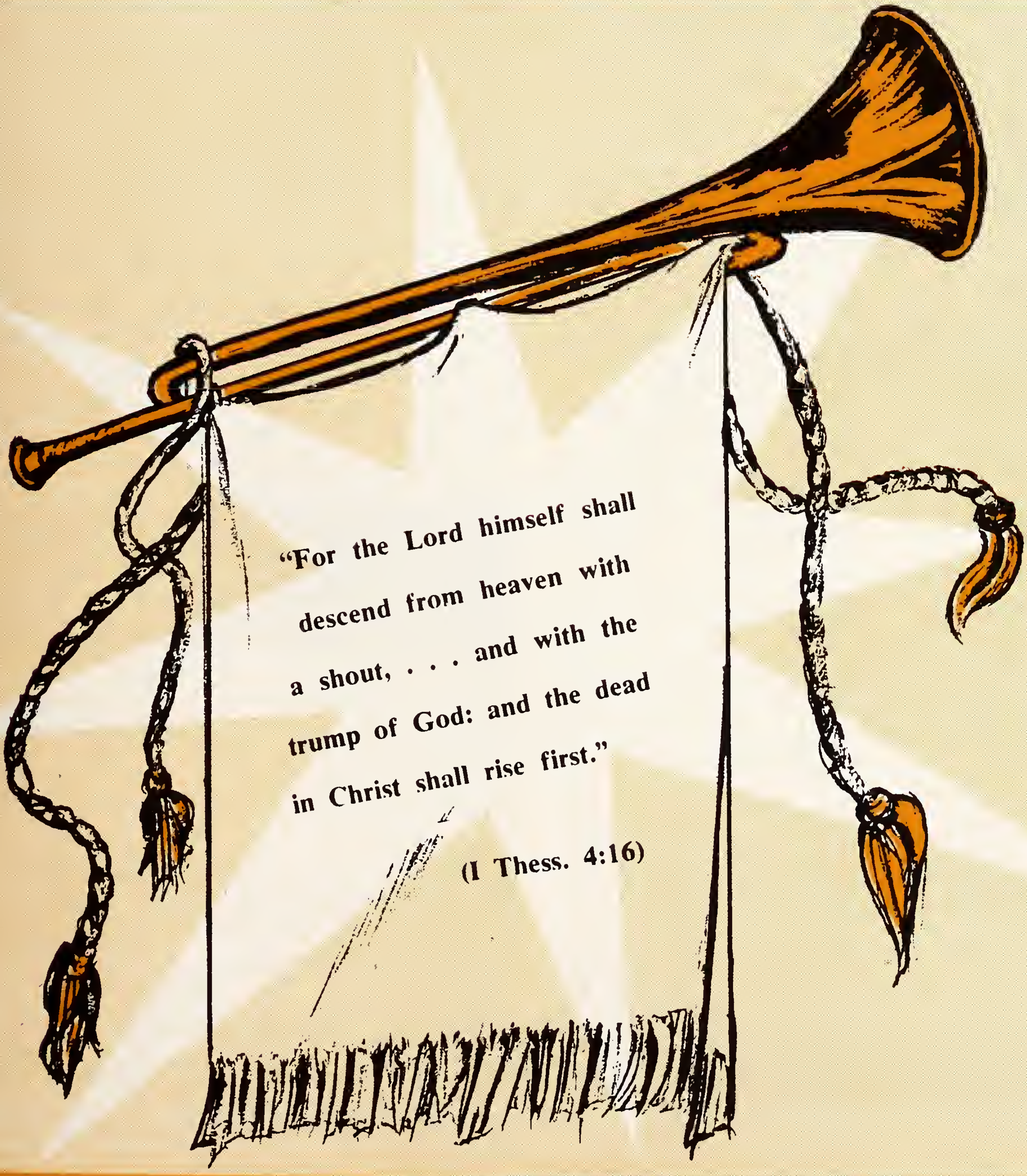

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, . . . and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first."

(I Thess. 4:16)

JULY, 1964

VOLUME 6 NO. 7

Editorial--THINGS YET FUTURE

B. G. Langston, Fayetteville, N. C.*

The future has not been explored by man! It is before us with all of its challenges and opportunities, wonders and amazements, "...for ye have not passed this way heretofore." (Joshua 3:4.) We are unable to penetrate the veil which separates the present from the future and behold all that we must encounter. But regardless of what the future may hold for us, we know, according to God's word, which is truth, that there are some things inevitable. Among these are: (1) The coming of Christ, (2) The General Ressurection, (3) The Judgment, (4) Heaven, and, (5) Hell. All the races of men from Adam until the end of time will experience the first three, but only the righteous will pass through the portals of glory into the city of gold to live with God forever, while the wicked dwell in the blackness of darkness forever and ever where the worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched. How wonderful, how great, to the godly; and yet; how terrible, how drastic, to the ungodly are the things yet future! Nothing should touch the lives of men more than these profound and inescapeable truths!

Knowing full well the truthfulness of the above remarks, many still are careless and indifferent with their souls, living as though whatever they do, somehow God will work matters out for their good at the judgment. There is nothing in death that will change our relationship with God. As death finds us so shall we spend eternity. Now is the time to get right! Now is the time to stay right!

Since all the races of men from Adam until the end of time shall be involved in "Things Yet Future", I commend the well written articles in this issue of the Carolina Christian for your thoughtful consideration.

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* Guest Editor

FOLWELL AT NORTHEAST

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C.

Sister Wilma Folwell, Child Counselor for the Davidson County School System, will be at the Northeast church of Christ, Greenville, S. C., August 24 - 28 to teach special classes for ladies and teen-age girls.

Sis. Folwell is well known among churches of Christ for her lectures and classes for ladies. She is a graduate of George Peabody College and a former faculty member of Freed-Hardeman College, Henderson, Tennessee. She has taught special classes at David Lipscomb, Abilene Christian, and Pepperdine Colleges as well as numerous congregations.

Sis. Folwell will teach her class each morning, Monday through Friday, at 10. She will be at Northeast in connection with the "Campaign for Christ" which her home congregation, Belmont Ave. of Nashville, is conducting with the Greenville church.

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CHRISTIAN

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THE GENERAL RESURRECTION

Jesse Melton, Wilson, N. C.

Of the four seasons of the year, this writer prefers the spring-time. What a wonderful experience it is to witness the resurrection of life! All nature seems to stir with excitement and anticipation. Suddenly, we hear a robin chirp, or see a blue bird flutter by. As if by magic, the buds burst and the trees put forth their foilage. The fields, brown from winter's blast, are suddenly covered with a rich, green carpet. The flowers blossom to complete the picture, and we find ourselves marveling at God's wonderland of beauty.

Spring-time is the time for sowing, it is the time for anticipation. The farmer plants his seed in expectation of the eventual harvest. He is confident that the seed he plants will take on new life, and a new body, and that it will come forth and live.

The apostle Paul declares, in I Cor. 15: 36§38: "....that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: And that which sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body." These words were spoken in explanation of the resurrection of the dead, the apostle basing his argument on the natural law of resurrection.

Jesus, in Jno. 5:28-29, said: "Marvel not at this for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." How WONDERFUL, how MARVELOUS, is the hope of the Christian! But, on the other hand, how tragic the resurrection of the wicked will be. What a horrible thing it is, to go into judgment unprepared. Jesus said: "These shall go away into eternal punishment." Matt. 25:46. A.S.V. "There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Matt. 25:30. Let no one doubt that the wicked shall be raised, along with the righteous. The language of our Lord is too plain to be misunderstood: "All that are in the graves shall hear his voice." "All that are in the graves shall come forth." (Both good and bad, righteous and unrighteous, saved and unsaved are included in the word ALL.) They that have done GOOD unto the resurrection of life; and those that have done EVIL unto the resurrection of damnation. John, the revelator, declares: "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God, and the books were opened..." Yes, the small and the great the rich and the poor, and the young and the old, every accountable being shall come forth in the resurrection, to face God in judgment. The writer of Hebrews wrote: "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Death and judgment are mentioned here, but between the two lies the RESURRECTION.

The fact of our resurrection has been established by the resurrection of Christ. "Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen." (I Cor. 15:12, 13.) But Christ is risen! (Mk. 16:6.) We have the testimony of many reliable witnesses on which to base this conclusion. Luke tells us, in Acts 1:3 "...he showed himself alive after his passion by MANY INFALLIBLE PROOFS, being seen of them (apostles) forty days and speaking the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." This occured after he was crucified and these men were willing to die rather than

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THE JUDGMENT

Ray D. Winn, Aberdeen, N. C.

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." (II Cor. 5:10.)

As man goes careening through this life at the maddening modern pace it becomes more and more evident that little thought is being given to those things which are yet to come. The idea of the judgment, while accepted by most of Christendom, is so remote in the minds of men that they do not see themselves as having to undergo this ordeal.

We are so infatuated with the idea of getting and having in this world that we fail to realize that the day will come when we must give account of our stewardship. God said to the rich man, "Thou fool, this night shall thy soul be required of thee." (Luke 12:20.) This man had forgotten that all he had was given to him of the Lord and that he was responsible for the right use of it. He had lost sight of the fact that the day of reckoning was coming when he would be judged by one who would not be impressed by worldly goods, regardless of the number of barns he might have. Jesus cares not for what we have in the way of worldly goods. He is concerned with what we are in the heart.

Every word, thought, and deed of this life will influence the ultimate decree of the Judge. Every secret thing will be open and known in that hour. This thought, alone, should be enough to bring many to their knees in repentance. Every heart and mind is open to the eyes of the Lord, and He looks into the deepest and darkest recesses, seeing all that is there. "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." (Eccl. 12:14.)

Jesus will be the one sitting in judgment on all mankind. He gave us a picture of the judgment scene in Matt. 25:31-46. "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it

(see page 11)

Heaven: What Will It Mean To Be There?

Howard Winters, Wilmington, N. C.

"If we have hope in Christ for this life only then of all people we are most to be pitied." (I Corinthians 15:19, Berkeley Version.) The people of God have staked all on heaven. They have left father, mother, family, friends, land, fortunes, country; they have "subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword;" they have "had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment;" they have been stoned, sawn asunder, tempted, slain with the sword, destitute, afflicted, tormented--all this and more they have done while "looking for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." If heaven is a delusion, Christians are truly of all people most to be pitied.

But heaven is not a delusion! It is more than the fanciful dreams of unfortunate souls--it is real, and as sure as the promises of God. Jesus said, "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." (John 14:1-3.) "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world... And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal." (Matthew 25:34, 46.)

A trite but also a true saying is, "Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people." A prepared people--prepared for what? What will it mean to be in heaven? What are the incentives for going there?

1. It will mean a union of Christ and His people. There is a sense in which Christ and His people are now together (Matthew 28:20), but in heaven the union will be even more full and complete, more satisfying and rewarding, more heavenly and sublime. "For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as as also I am known." (I Corinthians 13:12.) "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." (I John 3:2.) At His second coming, "The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." (I Thessalonians 4:16, 17.) We shall see him! We shall know Him! We shall be with Him! It is enough.

2. It will mean peace for the warrior. In the Lord's army, in this war-torn world below, we must fight many battles, with many enemies, on many grounds, making many sacrifices, but victory is sure. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:12.) "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds." (2 Corinthians 10:4.) Like Paul, we must be able to say, "I have fought a good fight," and then we can lay our armor down at the end of life: the war will be over! There will be peace in heaven!

3. It will mean a crown for the victor. Paul said, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."(2 Timothy 4:6-8.) Peter said to faithful elders--and this would apply in principle to all, "And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away." (I Peter 5:4.) The victor's crown is a crown of righteousness, a crown of glory, "an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away"--it is like a flower; that never fades.

4. It will mean a vineyard for the worker. I cannot think of heaven as a place where all activity will cease. To my mind idleness is uselessness. It seems to me that heaven is a place where we can enter into that which we are here preparing to do. For example, take a look at Brother Leslie G. Thomas. He has spent many years preparing himself for the role that he now so fitly plays in this great brotherhood. He has prepared himself well and is doing a magnificent work, but each year he becomes better and better prepared for the task; and if life takes its normal course with him, his last year on earth will be the year in which he is prepared best to serve both God and his fellowman. Now will all his great intellectual preparation and accomplishments be lost when he enters heaven? I think not, He is building, up credits that can be transfered to that higher school. Surely there is something there for which man must prepare in advance, at least to some extent. I am aware that this is applying purely human reason to a spiritual world, but it is the only way in which I can conceive of a completely contented state. And so I expect heaven to be a vineyard where we can enter in to do the work of God without the hinderences and limitations that are here imposed.

5. It will mean a place of rest. Rest does not always mean inactivity. Sometimes it means freedom from anything distressing, disturbing, annoying, or fatiguing, and this is what rest in heaven will mean. If there was no rest to look forward to, life would be almost unbearable; it would be like working around the clock, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, three hundred and sixty-five days a year. But "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest." (Hebrews 4:9-11.)

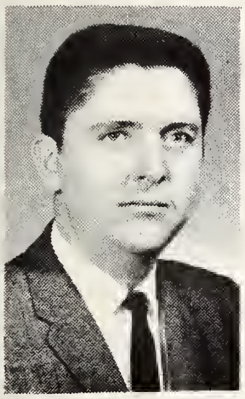
6. Heaven will mean life without the possibility of death. Those who love life should by all means strive to enter heaven: for it is there that we can have the more abundant life. Jesus said all that would leave all and follow Him would receive a hundredfold now in this time, "And in the world to come eternal life." (Mark 10:30.) Eternal life is life that never ends. "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." (Revelation 21:4.)

I want to go to heaven! Don't you? But if heaven means anything to me when I get there, I must be prepared for it. I do not want to be a stranger to the things of God when I enter that eternal city, nor does God want me to enter unprepared for the occasion. This is why Peter said--and we should heed well these words--that "His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises:that by these ye might, be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (2 Peter 1:3,4.) "Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people". Are we ready to go there?

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TODAY!

HELL

Virgil L. Hale, Whiteville, N. C.



Many people scoff at the idea that there is a literal hell in which the unprepared will spend eternity. Some would have us to believe that the idea of hell is just the figment of someone's imagination, or that preachers dreamed up the idea to scare people into living better in this world. However, the Bible teaches that there is such a place, and that it is eternal in nature. Both the Old and New Testaments refer to a place called hell. David wrote, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." (Psalms 9:17.) Jesus said, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matthew 10:28.)

The subject of hell is not a popular subject. In fact, it is so unpopular that many preachers would not dare present a lesson on the subject. If they should happen to mention future punishment in a sermon, they would not think of calling it hell. Instead, it is referred to as "the bad place" or "torment" in order to make it sound a little better to the hearers. The Lord never intended for the word hell to sound good to the ear of mankind. Hell was not designed to be attractive and as something to be desired. Contrary to this, it is prepared for the unprepared as an everlasting punishment, and it is a place that we should desire to escape. Therefore, I believe in calling this place just exactly what the Lord and inspired writers called it. After we have said all that the Bible has to say on the subject of hell, still it is impossible for us to realize how terrible this place really is. Yes, we need to speak bodly when talking about hell rather than beating around the bush, and we need to warn people to prepare to meet the Lord, lest being unprepared they spend eternity there.

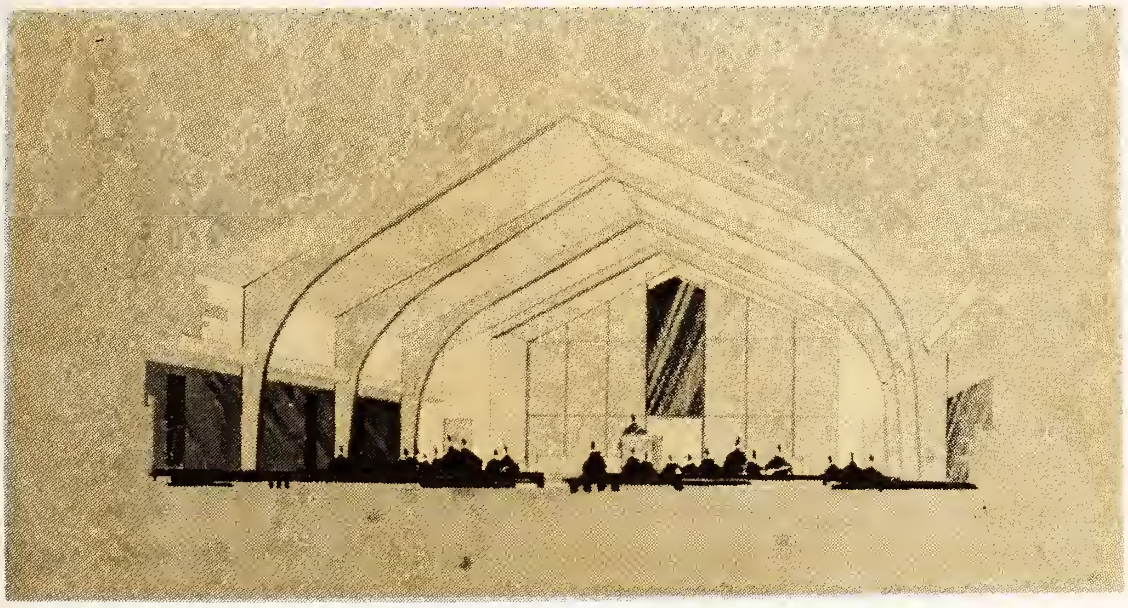
If we could just get people to realize that sin will be punished, it would not be so hard to get them to obey the Lord. Since many people go through this life living in sin and seemingly never suffer here as a result of it, they get the idea that there is no punishment. I believe that Solomon "hit the nail on the head" when he wrote, "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil." (Ecclesiastes 8:11.) If we knew that we would be punished immediately for our sin in a place such as hell is described, I am quite sure that there would be less sin in our lives.

There is a popular theory advanced that should there be a place of hell, that it would only be for a short time, and that those who go there will be punished for a while and then annihilated. However, God's word gives us teaching different from this. In Matthew chapter 25, Jesus pictures judgment scene to us very vividly. He points out to us that there will be a great separation made between the good and the bad. He concludes this teaching in verse 46 by saying, "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." Notice, now, Jesus said that the punishment would be everlasting. Heaven and hell are both for eternity -- time without end. Paul wrote the same thing in II Thessalonians 1:7-9. "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed, from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power." John wrote, "And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever: and they and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." (Revelation 14:11.)

Jesus in Luke chapter 16 gives us a story that should cause each of us to stop and think about the life that we are living. Here we see a man who in this life had everything that he could possibly desire. This man died and was in a place of torment so severe, that he felt that just a few drops of water on his tongue would help ease his misery. However, we learn from this account that he could not change his condition. Unlike the prodigal son that we read about in the preceding chapter, this man realized his condition too late, and there was nothing that he could do to remedy it. He had waited until it was now—impossible to make correction of his life. During his lifetime he had placed value on the wrong things and had overlooked his soul. Now he realized that his soul was his most valuable possession because the other things of life were gone, but his soul would be punished for eternity. In Luke chapter 15, the man who lost a sheep still had ninety-nine sheep; the woman who lost a coin still had nine coins left; and the man who lost a son still had one son left. However, unlike these examples, this man only had one soul and it was lost--he had lost everything.

Let us look briefly at the Bible description of hell. It is described as a place of FIRE. In Matthew 13:42 we read: "And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." Again we read, "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Revelation 20:12-15.) We can think of no greater physical punishment than fire. We all know how much it can pain us when we burn our hand just slightly. Think of spending eternity in a place of eternal fire. Secondly, hell is described as a place of DARKNESS. "Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matthew 22:13.) The human mind, accustomed to light, cannot stand to be thrust into darkness for a long period of time. This was used during the war to brain-wash soldiers who were captured. However, hell is described as a place of "outer darkness." We can think of no greater mental punishment. Thirdly, hell is described as a place of SEPARATION. Paul wrote, "Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power." (II Thessalonians 1:9.) Think of being eternally separated from the Lord and everything that is good. This is the reason that hell is referred to as death. It does not mean ceasing to exist, but being separated from the Lord. Death in the physical realm is a separation of the spirit from the body--so death in the spiritual realm is a separation of the soul from God. We can think of no greater spiritual punishment than being separated from the Lord forever. From the passages given, we can see that hell is described as the greatest physical, mental, and spiritual punishment that we can imagine. Surely, none of us want to go to such a place, and we need not go. The Lord has made provision for us to escape this place of eternal punishment, but the choice is up to us. It is in this life that each one of us must decide where we will spend eternity. May each of us obey the Lord and live faithful lives to him, that we may enjoy the blessings of that place that Jesus has gone to prepare, rather than having to spend eternity in hell which is prepared for the devil and his angels.

We are sorry the article, "The coming of Christ," did not reach us in time.



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BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.

BOB HARE, who is a missionary to Vienna, Austria, conducted eight Gospel Meetings in the Far East. He writes, "Never have I been in a field where the harvest is so plentiful, yet workers are so few. The Far East has over half the population of the entire world, yet it is the most neglected field in the brotherhood today. Of all the countries which I visited, India probably offers the greatest challenge. When one considers the conditions underwhich they work, the extremely hot weather, the danger of contracting some dangerous disease due to the filthy conditions and the many insects, then one cannot help but appreciate their efforts."

A preacher training school is conducted by the SUNSET CHURCH OF CHRIST in Lubbock, Texas. Included in the student body are men from Venezuela, Republic of Panama, Mexico, the Dominican Republic and eight states in the United States. Classes in Bible and related subjects are conducted five days per week, six hours per day, in both English and Spanish. A two year course of study is offered on a tuition free basis as the teachers' salaries are paid by the Sunset church.

A campaign for funds to erect a new building at PHILIPPINE BIBLE COLLEGE in Baguio City, Philippine Islands, has been launched. The school is now operating at capacity and additional space is imperative if the school is to continue to grow. According to KENNETH J. WILKEY, who heads the school, the new construction will allow 120 boys to live and work at the school, which is double its present number. Total cost of the building will be approximately $20,000, far less than the cost of comparable facilities in this country.

Fire swept from one end of the main building to the other recently at CHILDHAVEN, a children's home in Cullman, Alabama operated by members of the church of Christ, destroying the entire roof, fourth floor attic and third floor. Estimates of the cost of the damage range between 55 and 70 thousand dollars. All the children and staff were evacuated safely. According to State Fire Marshals, the blaze may have been set deliberately. Investigations continue.

JOHN L. ROBINSON, an American Missionary in Baguio City, reports that at the annual Philippine Lectures, crowds of 2,000 to 3,000 assembled nightly to hear the gospel preached.

There are two congregations of the Lord's church in MEXICO CITY. In that city some six million persons reside. Plans have been formalized to conduct the SECOND PAN AMERICAN LECTURESHIP in Mexico City in November of this year. The dates are November 9-13. Several hundred from the United States are expected to attend.

MRS. ZELMA LAWYER, longtime missionary worker and Christian educator, died June 3. Mrs. Lawyer accompanied her husband, Ray James Lawyer, to Africa, in 1924 only to see him killed in an accident in Africa in 1927. She is also remembered for her years as an instructor in four Christian colleges: Abilene Christian College, Harding College, Oklahoma Christian College and Columbia Christian College.

The MADISON, TENNESSEE CHURCH has begun construction on the largest auditorium among churches of Christ. The auditorium will seat 3,000. Financing was by the sale of bonds. They needed $350,000 but sold $449,000 in one day. The present auditorium will seat 1,500 and is now being used on a three shift basis to accommodate the congregation's more than 2,400 adult members and nearly 800 children who attend.

General Resurrection (cont'd)

deny the resurrection of Christ, which they had witnessed. Some men will die for the truth. Some men will die for a falsehood believing it to be the truth. But no man will die for a lie, believing it to be a lie! Therefore, the testimony of the apostles cannot be questioned.

In the Corinthian letter chapter 15 verses 20 and 23, our Lord is said to be "the first-fruits of the ressurection." This simply means that Christ is the pledge, or guarantee, of our ressurection. In Leviticus 23 verses 10-16, God gave the law pertaining to the firstfruits taken from the land of promise. The Israelites were to bring a sheaf of the firstfruits unto the priest who in turn would wave it before the Lord as a pledge of the harvest to come. Thus, Christ is the firstfruits of the ressurection in that He is our guarantee; He is our surety; He is our hope!

Some have supposed that the righteous dead will be resurrected first followed by the wicked dead. This assumption is based on a faulty interpretation of I Thessalonians 4:16ff: "And the dead in Christ shall rise first." This statement is not made concerning the righteous and the wicked dead, in the ressurection. But rather is made to show that the righteous living shall not precede the righteous dead in the ascension to meet the Lord in the air. Admittedly, some righteous people will be alive on the earth when the Lord returns (See I Thessalonians 4:15). However, the dead in Christ shall rise to meet the Lord ahead of those righteous souls which are alive at the Lord's coming. Any other interpretation placed on this passage must be in SPITE of the context. "ALL that are in the graves (both wicked and righteous) shall hear his voice and shall come forth." (John 5:28.) It would seem, from this verse, that the wicked and righteous shall be resurrected simultaneously.

Yes, the Bible clearly teaches that there will be a "general resurrection." Until the scoffers and the skeptics are able to explain and to duplicate the resurrection of nature in the spring-time, we shall march with faith unwavering that one day we shall stand with the redeemed of all the ages and with voice of triumph shout: "O death where is thy sting? O Grave where is thy victory?" Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

JUDGMENT (cont'd)

not unto me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."

Our Lord is well qualified for this mission. Being God, He has perfect knowledge, perfect understanding and sympathy, as well as a perfect sense of justice. Having been in the flesh and made perfect thereby (Heb. 2:10), He is able to understand and feel compassion for man with all his weaknesses and imperfections.

While He will judge mercifully and sympathetically, He will also judge righteously according to God's law, "...the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." (John 12:48.) The decision will be final and irrevocable. There is no higher court to which we might appeal. At that time each person will be sentenced either to heaven with everlasting joy and thanksgiving, or to hell with torment and misery which will also be everlasting. Since the soul is immortal the desperation of the lost in hell will last just as long as the bliss of the saved in heaven.

That will be a great and awesome scene, when all who have lived on this earth from Adam until the last day will be standing before the Lord. They will be without number. (Rev. 7:9.) They will know fear and trembling, anger, and exaltation.

Yes, there are some things yet future. The judgment is one of these things. The constant recollection of this promise will serve as a deterrent from sin to those who fear God and desire to do His will. There is awaiting each of us either reward or vengeance. (II Thess. 1:6-12.)

Are you ready for the judgment?

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

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NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

I am happy to join Brother Richard Harp in passing on to you news of the Carolina Churches. I have found this to be a most interesting section of the Carolina Christian in the past, and shall do my best to continue this tradition. In a very real sense, it is not my column, but yours; as the final copy will depend upon the information which you supply. I know that you will help make our coverage as broadly informative as possible.

The Church in Marion has just closed a three week's tent meeting with Jack Fogarty and Ermon Bain doing the preaching. Brother M. F. Norwood reports that there were twenty-eight (28) responses, including eleven (11) baptisms.

Brother Norwood is holding a tent meeting in Newland, the county seat of Avery County, June 28-July 10. This meeting is partly sponsored by the Church at Elk Park N. C.

Brother Claude Pharr, Minister of the Church in Lenior reports two baptisms the week of June 14th. ...I do not have any details, but the Wilkesboro Church is making plans for a new building... It was my pleasure to visit in Whitville and learn that they have begun construction on a new building. ...It was good to see so many Carolina faces at Blue Ridge this year... Brother Bob Rigdon, preacher at Sylva for several years, is temporarily absent for further study at Abilene Christian College. Brother H. J. Bass of Orlando, Florida will be preaching for a few months.

Taylorsville

TONY FORREST, Reporting: We are a-

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bout ready to enter our new building in Taylorsville. For over three years now we have been renting a local community building in which to hold our services. While this arrangement served us well, we are sure that these circumstances have retarded our acceptance by the community.

Our new building was designed by Philippe Gilissen, architect, of Hickory, and construction is being handled by Boan Building Supplies of Statesville. It contains 2,158 sq. ft. of floor space, including auditorium (seating 80), 5 classrooms, restrooms, and office. Each classroom is going to have a chalk board and bulletin board and other furniture designed for the pupils using them. Costs of building and furniture is expected to be around $20,000.

Lexington

WALTER E. NEAL, Reporting: May 24 was a great day for the church here. For the first time, we went on the air. This is a 5000 Watt station, AM and FM. It has real good coverage.

Since our last report, two have confessed wrong. Our attendance is off, because of vacation time.

Wilmington

HOWARD WINTERS, Reporting: The church in Wilmington has just closed a great series of gospel meetings in which MARVIN BRYANT of Gaffney, S. C. did the preaching. Following are a few of the many highlights of the meeting: (1) Outstanding preaching from beginning to end. (2) A record attendance (since I have been working with the church) was reached on the Sunday morning the meeting started, and the meeting continued with record attendance throughout. (3) Three precious souls were baptized into Christ--none of which had attended services of the church more than once prior to the meeting. (4) Many new contacts were made, and a goodly number of study engagements have or will be made in the future. (5) The church was edified, greatly encouraged, and filled with new and increased enthusiasm. This was a meeting that will be long remembered in Wilmington. But the meeting is not all the good news from here. Both attendance and contribution are up--attendance is almost double that of three months ago. In addition to the three baptisms, eight members have recently moved here. Next week (June 22-26) we will conduct a Vacation Bible School. Our radio programs are producing fruit. (Two of the persons baptized during the meeting were contacted through the radio programs.) So now, more than ever, we can truthfully say THE CHURCH IN WILMINGTON IS ON ITS WAY UP!

Shelby

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: Since moving to Shelby, the work has moved very well and promises to be fruithful. I was privileged to be the speaker during our meeting in June to which 28 different people of other churches attended, some of which attended several times. A great stride was taken. We have a Monday thru Friday radio program from 9 till 9:15 each morning on WADA, 1390 kc. It has drawn very favorable comment. We have a membership of about 20.

Boys and Girls — — —

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Jamesville

FRED EATON, Reporting: We closed a meeting in Jamesville June 10th. Bro. W. H. Larkins of Savannah Tenn. did some very good preaching. Although there were no visible results, we are hoping that, as a result of the effort put forth in this meeting, much glory to the Master will be produced. There is much to be done at Jamesville, and though things are discouraging some time, we are sure that we can accomplish much if we "work while it is yet day" with a realization that the night is coming when no man can work.

Rockingham

On June 15, Pat Dawkins and her husband moved to Ft. Benning, Georgia. Many thanks to her for reporting the news for the past months.

On May 17, a soul responded to the gospel and was baptized.

Our meeting is in progress with Norman Hogan of Abilene, Texas speaking daily at 6:45 A.M. and 7:30 P.M. The morning services are very inspiring and help us to get the day off to a good start. So far three souls have been baptized and one soul has been restored.

Gastonia

PAUL S. GRAY, Reporting: We arrived safely May 19th along with our household furnishings at 1624 Carolina Circle and found everything in a state of readiness making our getting settled both quick and easy. The church at 500 Union Road was in the midst of advertising and getting the auditorium ready for the meeting which was conducted May 24 to 31st. The attendance was good, the average throughout the eight days being just about equal to that on Sunday mornings. No additions during the meeting but one was baptized the Wednesday following. Sam Durrance of Charlotte directed the singing in a fine way, surrounding churches cooperated well, and many visitors from the community also attended. A reporter from the GAS-

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TONIA GAZETTE attended the first Sunday morning service and gave us quite a write-up on the front page of the Monday edition. Attendance since the meeting has not been what we had hoped for but it continues near the 100 mark.

July 13 to 22nd I shall be in a meeting at Prosperity near Beckley, W. Va.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

Camden

MRS. S. H. LEE, Reporting: The church here had a Vacation Bible School for the first time June 8-12. The first day the attendance was 70, and by Friday there was an enrollment of 121. Over two-thirds of the children received perfect attendance certificates. C.C. Vaughan, has been invited to Freetown Sierra Leone, West Africa to help in the establishing of the church. Brother Vaughan plans to leave the week of June 16, being accompanied by V.E. Williamson. This opportunity to establish the church at Freetown is the result of the recent conversion of W. Orlando Price, Dean of Allen University, Columbia, S. C. Since being converted Bro. Price's greatest ambition has been to return to his home with others and establish the true church. He was formerly a Methodist minister.

Brothers Vaughan and Williamson will be gone about sixty days and request the prayers of the brotherhood that this effort will be a success.

Woodruff

OTTIS L. QUALLS, Reporting: We believe that one of the greatest steps in the history of this congregation was made recently by the appointment of Elders. At the morning worship services May 31st., Carl L. Hudson, Earl W. Burch, and D. B. Sanders were appointed elders. Richard B. Sanders and this writer were appointed to serve as deacons. Our vacation Bible school is now planned for the last week of July. We have set new records recently in our contribution.

West Columbia

MRS. SARA SHEALY, Reporting: Vacation Bible School was June 8-13, from 7 to 9 p. m. Last year we had an average well over 200. Recently we had two more baptisms. That makes a total of 11 in the past few months.

We had a record attendance for Sunday morning of 205. The previous record was 176.

Our budget of $230.00 averages out at about $240.00 per week from the first of the year.

Gaffney

MARVIN BRYANT, Reporting: One year of labor has become history for the infant church in Gaffney, S. C., a city of some 19,000. Thirty-eight souls, 33 white and five negroes, have been baptized into Christ in this year. A $7,500 church building has been purchased and paid for by interested brethren. Some $3,500 has been spent in renovating the property. A negro congregation is now meeting in our city and we are hoping to raise the support for Bro. John Rout of Asheville, N. C. who is willing to give up 20 years of seniority with the Asheville Gas Company to work full time in the ministry here.

With the services of 28 David Lipscomb College students March 13-20, 1964 and 14 gospel preachers helping in the recent Fogarty-Bain tent meeting April 26-May 17, 1964, we have been able to call on every house (5,000) at least twice during this year.

While one year ago the church of Christ was unknown by the masses here, today everyone knows at least something about New Testament Christianity. Many are saying that the church of Christ is the fastest growing church in this city.

We contribute our success to the interest that brethren have shown in this work and to preaching publicaly and from house to house. During these past 12 months, ten special preaching efforts have been made. Six of these were for one week in duration one for three weeks (22 Nights) and three

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were weekend meetings. Among the 38 baptisms five were denominational preachers. Gaffney has all of the prejudice that could possibly be found anywhere. This has resulted from the baptisms of certain prominant people from the various denominations. However, we believe that the next year will be even more fruitful than the first.

Gaffney's success is no miracle. What has happened here could happen anywhere with an equal amount of labor exerted in love and expectancy. This labor has come from many brethren and a special thanks for all who have had a part in the Gaffney work.

We solicit the prayers of the brotherhood and invite a helping hand from any and all.

Greenville, Northeast

BURL CURTIS, Reporting: Ira North and Clayton Pepper will be with us August 6 and 7 for an area-wide training series. At 7:30 p. m., North will speak to the entire group on "Building Up the Local Congregation," and about 8:15 p. m. both North and Pepper will teach classes. Bro. North's class will be on "Building Up the Bible School" and Pepper's will be on "Personal Work." We believe you will want to attend this series.

Our building is nearing completion. We still hope to have "open house" the first Sunday in August with a singing in the afternoon. The "Campaign for Christ" is August 23 - 30. Plan to help us in this great effort.

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AUGUST, 1964 VOLUME 6 NO. 8

A Distinctive Plea . . . Faith In Christ

P. L. Manning, Asheboro, N. C.

There are many interpretations of the word "faith." Various groups see its meaning differently. For example, these vagaries consist of such statements as: "faith only is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort" and "just believe and you will be saved."

Faith derived from Bible Knowledge is distinctive. It is faith that "Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God." (Acts 8:36-37; Matthew 16:16 - 18; I Corinthians 3:11.) This faith is unique in that it is produced by reading or hearing the word of God. "But these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." (John 20:30-31.) "So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17.)

The Distinctive Plea Is An Active Faith

The only time "faith only" is found in the New Testament is in James 2:24, which says, "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only." Further James says, "Yea a man may say thou hath faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works. Thou believeth there is one God; thou doest well, the devils also believe, and tremble." (James 2:18-19.) Faith in Christ must be an active obedient faith. "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things I say." (Luke 6:46.) It is impossible to have saving faith without it being demonstrated by action. "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." (James 2:26.) The honor roll of faith in Hebrews, chapter eleven, exemplifies the very thing to which we refer. Every person to which reference is made was told by the Lord to do a certain thing. When they obeyed, then their faith was made perfect. (James 2:22.) We must conclude then, that the faith that saves, is the faith that obeys.

Biblical Definition of Faith

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for a conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1, ASRV).

The assurance of things "hoped for" is further expressed by Paul, "But if we hope for that which we see not, then we do with patience wait for it." (Romans 8:25.) "A conviction of things not seen" is defined as things eternal. "For the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." (II Corinthians 4:18.) This is a clear definition of faith as described by the Holy Spirit.

Jesus the Author and Finisher

After having given the "heroes of faith" the writer says, "Wherefore seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto

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OBEDIENCE TO HIM IN ALL THINGS

Jerry Richardson, Winston-Salem, N. C.

One cold rainy October afternoon I walked up to Independence Hall in Philadelphia. I was immediately impressed with the good condition of that famous historical landmark. I walked inside just in time to go on a tour of the building. The guide took us first into the tower section of the building and pointed out the Liberty Bell. Then he pointed to the stairs that led to the second floor. The guide explained to us how the workmen had scraped through several layers of paint and found the original coat of paint. They took this sample of the original paint and had experts to match the color. The results were that we were looking at a staircase, nearly two hundred years old, in its original condition and original color.

This same principal of restoring to the original was in the minds of men like James O'Kelley, Barton W. Stone, Raccoon John Smith, and the Campbells when they began to restore New Testament Christianity around the turn of the 18th century. They wanted to scrape down through the layers of denominationalism, creeds and men's doctrines to the original church established on Pentecost.

This is still our Distinctive Plea as members of the Lord's church today. And I believe that we have restored the New Testament pattern. We meet on the first day of the week, we sing without the use of instrumental music, we pray, we study the Word, we give, and partake of the Lord's Supper. We have restored the church in what we teach is necessary to salvation, namely, faith, repentance, confession and baptism. But, being obedient to him in all things goes even beyond the worship and the plan of salvation. If we are not careful we may be meeting the qualifications of a legal system and missing the spirit of Christianity.

I feel very deeply that we need to take a closer look at ourselves to determine if we have the same zeal, the same spirit of sacrifice that the early New Testament Christians had. Do we have that same close fellowship? Are we able to confess our faults one to another? These are the problems that bother me as a Christian.

It is possible that we have deceived ourselves into thinking that obeying a system of laws is all that is required to be a faithful Christian? Is it possible that we know the Bible but not the Christ?

To be obedient to Christ in all things means that in addition to restoring the pattern or frame work of New Testament Christianity we must restore the zeal and have an eager desire to grow spiritually. It means we must develop our talents to their capacity. For example one of the greatest needs in the Carolinas today is for a dynamic eldership with vision in every congregation. The reason we don't have this leadership is because those of us with the potential to become qualified elders have not met this challenge and developed ourselves to take on this great task. The only way we can have dynamic leadership in the next five or ten years is for each individual Christian to set this as his goal and work toward it.

To prepare ourselves to become effective Bible Class teachers is another way we can be obedient to him in all things. We often over look the importance of a direct command issued by the pen of Paul in Ephesians 6:4 "Fathers, don't overcorrect your children or make it difficult for them to obey the commandment. Bring them up with Christian teaching in Christian discipline." (J. B. Phillips)

Oh, how often we have boasted about how we have restored the church! When we are losing 50% of our young people! There must be a reason and there is. We haven't been obedient to him in all things. We have simply over looked or neglected to "Bring them up with Christian teaching in Christian discipline." We, as parents,

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LOVE AND SINCERITY IN WORSHIP

Orville Midyette, Mocksville, N. C.

"See how these Christians love each other" was the comment of an observer in the early days of Christianity.

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35), Jesus had said.

Of all the gifts or graces known to men or to angels, love is supreme. It is above eloquence, it is above the gift of prophecy, above knowledge, superior to mountain-moving faith. The great Apostle Paul makes this clear. "Though I speak with the tongue of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing." (I Corinthians 13:1, 2.)

"Let brotherly love continue." (Heb. 13: 1.) I heard of one preacher who took this for his text, and sermon after sermon preached on it. The brethren became anxious to know when he was going to change his subject and his sermon. The preacher replied by telling them when they learned this lesson and applied it he would preach on something else.

There are very few things troubling the church and marring the beauty and glory to the Father in worship; that brotherly love would not take care of. Most of the things that have happened to mar the peace and happiness of the church would not have happened had the brethren had genuine love in their hearts.

Christians are "kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another." (Rom. 12:10.) Unless our religion has sweetened us to a very considerable extent--given us control of our temper; checked us in our moments of irritation and weakness; enabled us to meet misfortune and, in a measure, overcome it; developed within us the virtues of patience and long-suffering, making us tender of others, and generally diffusing above us an atmosphere that is genial and winsome--whatever else we may have gained, one thing is sure--religion is not having its perfect work in us; and the glory to the Father is going to be lacking in our worship to Him.

On the other hand if love has performed its perfect work and we have added those qualities to our living it will be impossible to "hold back" in our worship and the demonstration will be heard and felt. We know this was the case when we read that the early Christians "did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and having favor with all the people." (Acts 2:46, 47.).

If Christians do not eagerly anticipate each worship period something is wrong. A little child delights in being with his parents. The consuming love generated in our hearts in response to God's love for us will make our service to him a pleasure. The Scriptures reveal to each of us our role in the drama of life-our work, our goal, our reward. From the Bible, we learn how to commune with God through worship. Thus by exercise in Christian service, we grow and mature to the point that our highest joy is in "the law of the Lord." The joy we feel stems from the marvelous assurance that we are doing that for which we were given life. It comes as we begin to realize that we have involved ourselves in God's eternal purposes and designs--that we are "laborers together with God." We might begin our walk with God out of a sense of duty, but this will presently give way to or be reinforced by the great, positive pleasure and delight afforded us in our Christian profession. May we all strive to be sure that we know and do what God wants us to do in worship and in a manner that reflects the fullest measure of sincerity and reverance.

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A Distinctive Plea . . . Christ's Authority Must Be Recognized

J. H. Blackman, Jr., Salisbury, N. C.

The need of a single recognized authority in religion is very obvious from the large number of divergent denominational bodies among us today. I am amazed at the way they beguile people into believing they are scriptural and teach Bible truths. When much of their doctrine is not found in the Bible, and they have had to resort to the writings of men to establish their specific beliefs as: Disciplines, Catechisms, Books of Faith, Creeds, etc.

If these divergent bodies would recognize and follow Jesus Christ as the only supreme authority in religion, the confusion would dissipate. For Christ not only started as the author of our faith, he completed it and now sits at the right hand of God. "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:2.) "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints." (I Corinthians 14:33.) Furthermore, Christ prayed for unity of all who believed the apostles' word. "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, and they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." (John 17:20-21.) The only way there may be unity is to speak the same thing, as Paul advised the Corinthians. "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, that there be no divisions among you: but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." (I Corinthians 1:10.) Consider the words of the prophet Amos, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3.)

The church of Christ makes a distinctive plea to all professing religious bodies to recognize the authority of Christ. We need authority in religion to know what is true or false. It must give us what we are to believe and do, as well as, to whom we are to listen as an authority. God, however, is the ultimate authority in religion and all spiritual truth come from him.

In brief, the exercise of God's authority is seen in Hebrews 1:1-2, "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in times past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his son." Therefore, the authority is found today not in the words of the prophets but in his Son.

Christ said, "For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak." (John 12:49.) The Father in heaven tells us to hear only the voice of Christ. He said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." (Matthew 17:5.) Just previous to this, the teaching of Christ was said to have authority in it. "For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes" (Matthew 7:29.) Which authority was manifest in the working of miracles (Mark 1:27) and the forgiveness of sins (Mark 2:10.)

The Father had granted unto Christ authority or power: "As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him." (John 17:2.) With this authority as a foundation (Matthew 28:18), Christ sent forth His apostles (Matthew 28:19-20.) Therefore, what Christ says through the apostles is the standard of right or wrong in religion, as the Holy Spirit guided them into all truth. "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth." (John 16:13.)

The apostles were given power to build

up and strengthen the church. Paul wrote of "the power which the Lord hath given me to edification, and not to destruction." (II Corinthians 13:10.) The apostles by the guidance of the Holy Spirit were able to bind and loose in the church and the same would be bound or loosed in heaven. (Matthew 16:19.) Furthermore, they could forgive or retain sins (John 20:22-23), as directed by the Holy Spirit. But there were no successors to their apostolic office. "And the walls of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb." (Revelation 21:14.)

As to the authority of evangelists today, we find it limited to the scriptures. Outside of the Bible there is no evangelistic authority. The apostle Paul said to Titus, "These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority." (Titus 2:15.) Only those things taught in the Scriptures can an evangelist proclaim with authority. An evangelist is to give scriptural proof for all statements made, for it is the scripture not the evangelist that is the authority.

Elders or bishops, rule the local church or congregation only as administrators for God, following the direction of His will. which is given to them in the inspired they have is that which is given in the scriptures. "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account. that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for this is unprofitable for you." (Hebrews 13:17.) When they legislate things not found in the word they are without authority.

There is according to the New Testament only one judicial and legislative authority--Christ. "There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?" (James 4:12.) The authority as is presently used and exercised by denominational councils, making laws to govern the church and attempting to enforce these rules of faith, is forbidden by Christ. "Jesus saith unto them,Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. But so shall it not be among you." (Mark 10:42-43.)

True Christians recognize Christ as the complete authority in all things pertaining to life and godliness. (II Peter 1:3.) Christ has revealed his will perfectly to man in the Scriptures. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." (II Timothy 3:16-17.)

Will you not accept God and his word through Christ as the final authority in religion, turning from the man made confusion of denominationalism? The most precious substance we possess--the soul--can be lost if we refuse to accept Christ's teaching as supreme. "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." (I John 4:1.)

FAITH IN CHRIST (Cont'd)

Jesus the author and finisher of our faith;" (Hebrews 12:1-2.) We must realize that there is a race to be run. The race is not complete until after we have crossed the finish line. "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give unto thee a crown of life." (Revelations 2:10.) This carries with it the meaning, even to the forfeiting of your life, and of course faithfulness is necessary as long as we have life. Paul says, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous judge will give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them that love his appearing." (II Timothy 4:7-8.)

True Worship vs. Vain Worship

The Christian is guided by the word of God and walks thereby. "For we walk by faith and not by sight." (II Corinthians 5:7.) A distinctive plea...faith in Christ includes "worshipping in truth." (John 4:24.) If our worship and service is not authorized by the word of the Lord, then we are failing to "walk by faith."

"This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoreth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines, the commandments of men." (Matthew 15:8-9.)

The early church participated in these five items of worship each Lord's day: teaching, singing, Lord's supper, giving prayer. (Acts 2:42; Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19; Acts 20:7; I Cor. 11:23-30; I Cor. 16:2.) Any deviation from the divine pattern will become sinful. This will include any addition thereto or subtraction therefrom, or substitution therefor. (Rev. 22:18-19; Deut. 4:2; 12:32; Pro. 30:6.)

Faith in Conversion

"Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." (Hebrews 11:6). But believing in God is not enough. Jesus said, "Ye believe in God, believe also in me... (John 14:1.) And again, "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins; For if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." (John 8:24.) Then, faith has a definite part in salvation but does not hold a position of "all supremacy." Christ said, "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." (Mark 16:16.)

Faith is the basis of further obedience. After Philip preached Jesus to the Ethiopian treasurer, the eunuch asked, "...see here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, if thou believeth with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." (Mark 16: 16.)

In conversion, faith plays the following part. Hearing God's word produces faith. (Romans 10:14-17.) Faith, in turn, leads one to repent of sins (Acts 2:38), Confess Christ to be the Son of God (Acts 8:37), and to be buried with the Lord in baptism (Galatians 3:26-27.)

One must then add other qualities in addition to faith to make his calling and election sure. (II Peter 1:5-11.)

OBEDIENCE (Cont'd)

have neglected to teach our children at home. As elders and leaders we have treated the Bible class program like a step-child. As individual Christians we have failed to accept our responsibility to train and develop ourselves as teachers. The Great Commission is not only world-wide in scope but it is also Christianity-wide in obligation. Every Christian is called to teach. How long will we continue to use this excuse when we are asked to teach a Bible class? "I don't know enough about the Bible," when we have been Christians for years. Is it because we have not been obedient to him in all things, namely, study and preparation? (2 Tim. 2:15.)

In being obedient to him in all things we should keep in mind the teachings of Paul in 1 Corinthians 13. Paul teaches that love is the most important element of all in Christianity. The Greek word used here is "agape" which means an unmotivated love. It means to love someone, an enemy, the souls of our fellow men in spite of what they are or how they act. This is the kind of love that God has for us. He loves us in spite of what we are. It is a lack of this "agape" love for our fellow Christians that has been responsible for trouble and quarreling among churches in the Carolinas. It is this lack of "agape" love that keeps the church from growing numerically and spiritually in the Carolinas.

Paul's point in 1 Corinthians 13 when applied to us today is that we may have the truth, we may have restored the New Testament pattern of the organization, the worship and the plan of salvation but without love we will be lukewarm, incipid, vapid, quarreling "Christians".

The great challenge to the church today is for us to scrape down through our layers of self-righteousness, legalism, Phariseeism, and restore the original New Testament kind of Christianity. When we do this we will be able to carry forth our distinctive Plea and be Obedient to Him in all things.

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An Introduction To The Bible No. 6

Ray N. Moses, Greenville, S. C.

In previous articles we have quoted Scriptures to show that the Law of Moses is not binding upon Christians. Let us now take a glance at some of the unchanging values of the Old Testament.

To begin with the least important, there is the matter of history. The Bible accounts begin in Mesopotamia ("the middle of the rivers") and soon shifts by way of Palestine to Egypt. After recording events connected with these scenes of the most ancient civilizations, the historical books of the Bible recount in order of time the contacts of the Hebrews with other ancient peoples through the centuries till the Israelites are carried away as captives into Babylonia.

In the second chapter of the Book of Daniel, we read of Daniel's telling and interpreting a dream which King Nebuchadnezzaar had dreamed and had forgotten. Calling especial attention to verses 31-35, the king had dreamed of a great image with its head made of gold, its breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of brass, and its two legs of iron, while its feet and toes were part of iron and part of clay. These different parts of the image represented the succession of great world empires—Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecian, and Rome, with the lesser kingdoms into which the Roman empire was finally divided. A history student could hardly find a handier way to learn the order in which these great world empires came and passed than to memorize a few verses from the account of Nebuchadnezzaar's dream.

This ability of God to foretell the rise and fall of empires indicates that He holds the nations in the hollow of his hand and that the fulfillment of his purposes in the earth are sure.

The Old Testament builds concepts of the greatness and goodness of God. Job wondered about the mysteries of God. Canst thou by searching find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection?" Job 11:7.

The Old Testament teaches that God is eternal. "Of old has thou laid the foundations of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed. But thou art the same, and thy years have no end." Psalm 102:25-27.

God is present everywhere. "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me." Psalm 139:7-10. Oh, if we could only keep ourselves conscious of this Presence!

It is all-important to us that along with his limitless power, God is righteous and merciful. "For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations." Psalm 100:5.

Because of his kindness, God has inspired much practical good counsel to guide us in daily living. In Proverbs 7: 6-23 there is a vivid account of a young man's coming to tragedy by yielding to the temptations of an evil woman. In the same book, Chapter 31:10-31, is devoted to the praise of a virtuous woman.

Seldom has so much good advice been given in so few words as in Proverbs 4: 23. "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

But the lessons of life are most vigorously expressed not in words, but as they are actually lived before people's eyes. The Old Testament contains great object lessons like that of the many thousands of the Israelites who started out on the journey that would take them from the bondage of Egypt to the freedom of Canaan. Because they failed to trust their God they murmured when everything that they needed was not immediately in sight, and their hearts turned back in longing for the flesh-pots of Egypt. They were kept wandering in the deserts of Arabia till most of them had perished.

Perhaps touching our lives more closely are the lessons to be learned from individual lives. When Joseph was tempted by his master's wife, he said that he could not sin against his God, and he kept himself pure. When Job was afflicted with sorrows and pains for which he could find no reason, he yet trusted the goodness of God and was rewarded with blessings in his old age.

We can't fail to mention Abraham "father of the faithful." God said to him, "Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I shall tell thee of." Gen 22:2. And Abraham arose early in the morning and went about the heart-breaking task that God had set before him. How far was he willing to go for God! We might remark here that God never required man to go as far for Him as He was willing to go for man!

A number of lessons might be found in the life of Moses. The one I like best is found in Hebrews 11:24-27. "By faith Moses when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward; by faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing him who is invisible." Is God so real to you?

Much could be written on things in the Old Testament that represent something in the New. Most often these Old Testament types represent something about Jesus. When John the Baptist exclaims, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29), the words are far more meaningful to us if we have read of the passover lamb in the 12th chapter of Exodus.

In parts of the Old Testament, instead of giving symbols to represent Christ's office and work, the Scriptures tell us plainly about the coming Christ. "The Government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6. "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:5.

In many ways the Old Testament serves as a background against which we can more clearly understand and appreciate the New. How often in the Law of Moses do we find the words, "He shall surely die." By contrast how precious are the understanding, sympathy, and mercy of Jesus!

Of course the above are only scattered gleanings of values from the Old Testament. The earnest student will find many, many more values like these as well as some which are different. However, the New Testament is richer in spiritual truth than is the Old, and the New touches our lives more closely.

Greenville, Northeast

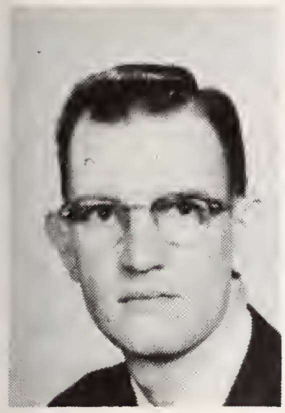
BURL CURTIS, Reporting: Northeast's members are working zealously to have our building ready by the first Sunday in August. Although we expect to use the building the first Sunday, "open house" has been scheduled for August 23.

Vacation Bible School will be conducted August 10-14. We are hoping to have our largest attendance.

The "Campaign for Christ," with about 20 out-of-town workers, will begin August 23 and continue through the 30th. The schedule for Sunday, August 23, will be-: (1) Bible study and worship at 10 and 11; (2) basket dinner at 1:15 p. m.; (3) area-wide singing at 3 p. m.; (4) open house for towns people or those who do not wish to attend any of these services; (5) evening worship at 6 P.M. Please come!

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.



The QUEENS CHURCH OR CHRIST, Flushing, N. Y., is having phenomenal success with the exhibit at the New York World's Fair. The second evangelistic services conducted on the Fair Grounds attracted 1,457 attendants. The speaker for the occasion was BATSELL BARRETT BAXTER. More than 350,000 have passed through the exhibit in less than three months and in that time some 15,000 prime contacts were made. Among the methods being used to teach the gospel are (1) an 18 minute color film, "What is Christianity?", which is scheduled for showing four times a day in the 375 seat auditorium adjoining the exhibit area, (2) free Bible Correspondence Course, (3) free Christian literature in ten languages, (4) an electronic Bible "Teacher" known as Directomat which answers 120 questions according to the press of a button and (5) well qualified teachers and counselors. Efforts are underway to raise an additional $100,000 for the support of this good work.

BOB HARP, a gospel preacher, and his family are working in Pago Pago, American Samoa which is in the South Pacific. Harp reports some difficulty in adjusting to the situation and tropical life. They lived first in a one-room house (thatched) which had no refrigeration, no bathroom, no laundry facilities, no running water and practically no privacy. The island averages 200 inches of rain per year. Sometimes for worship they have had only their own family. On other days 25 to 30 Samoans have visited the services.

JIMMY ALLEN, a 34 year old evangelist and professor of Bible at HARDING COLLEGE, preached in the DALLAS MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM, DALLAS, TEXAS, July 26-August 9. The auditorium has a seating capacity of 10,500. "Fifteen Keys To Living" was the theme of this series. Allen had just prior to the Dallas evangelistic meeting toured Bible Lands and conducted a highly successful campaign in Parson's Stadium, the second largest rodeo stadium in the world, in Springdale, Arkansas. In the Springdale meeting there were 182 responses to the gospel and an average attendance of approximately 5,000 per service. Allen's topic the last night was "The Danger of Delay" at the close of which 100 persons responded to the invitation. During the past 5 years Allen has preached in 66 gospel meetings with 2,091 responses.

BETTY BRUMLEY was killed instantly in a car-truck collision Saturday morning July 11 near Corinth, Mississippi. Her husband, BRAD, was listed as being in critical condition in a Memphis, Tennessee hospital following the accident. The Brumleys were returning from a Bible Teacher Workshop in Georgia. They lived in Henderson, Tennessee where they both served on the Freed-Hardeman College faculty. They had been very active in Teacher Training Programs for several years.

Other deaths of prominant Christians include R. C. Bell, 87, professor emeritus of Bible at Abilene Christian College whose 50 year career saw service in 8 colleges, David L. McQuiddy, Sr., 66, President of McQuiddy Printing Company and Secretary - Treasurer of the Gospel Advocate Company, and G. C. Morlan, 76, a member of the Abilene Christian College faculty for 42 years.

A call comes from L. T. GURGANUS, JR. for more missionaries to JAPAN. He points out that Japan, with a population of 96,000,000, has the world's largest city, Tokyo (population - 10 1/2 million), but less than 1% who profess Christianity in any form. Yet this is a land of complete religious freedom where a friendly attitude toward Americans exists. It is the most literate nation in the world.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

Richard Harp, S. C. News Editor
Box 134, Lancaster, S. C.

Tony Forrest, N. C. News Editor
Box 714, Taylorsville, N. C.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

High Point

TONY FORREST, Reporting: Brother Jerry Lee Thomas of 1916 East Russell Ave., High Point, N. C. has asked me to let the brethren know that he is available for preaching appointments. His letter says that he has been a member of the church since 1957 and has been preaching part time since 1960. He has preached for churches in Troy, Asheboro, and High Point, N. C. For further information contact P. L. Manning, Asheboro, N. C., or Frank Milton, High Point, N. C.

Jerry states that he will preach anywhere in the Carolinas for his gas expenses. His phone number is 882-0909, High Point, N. C. Please call after 6:00 P.M.

Raleigh

HENRY RENOLDS, Reporting: The church in Raleigh is still looking for a full time minister. At the present time, Bob Sorrell of Sparta, Tennessee, a former minister of this congregation, is preaching for us on a temporary basis. He is doing a wonderful job. Brother Sorrell plans to return to Tennessee around August 1st.

Cherokee

CHESTER HUNNICUT, Reporting: Our months campaign ended July 7, with one baptism and one restoration. We had 143 personal workers. Over 5,000 people attended. The largest at one time was 215.

Kinston

N. E. SEWELL, Reporting: One was baptized since our last report, making a total of nine for the first half of 1964. Marvin Bryant of Gaffney, S. C. has agreed to hold a meeting here in November.

Henderson

HENRY RENOLDS, Reporting: The first week in June was a grand occasion for the congregation in Henderson. John and Norma Hollis, together with their four children, moved here from Greenfield, Indiana. Brother Hollis will be the minister of this congregation in Henderson. Brother Hollis is 33 years old and is a native of Georgia. He attended Alabama Christian College, Montgomery, Alabama and graduated from Troy State in August, 1959, with a B.S. degree.

He began preaching in 1956, and has been in full time work since 1957. He has served the Oak Bowery Church near Troy, Alabama; Leonard Street, Pensacola, Florida; and Greenfield Church in Greenfield, Indiana.

Since his move to Henderson, a midweek service and a radio program have been started. This program can be heard over WIZS 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:30. Plans are underway for Brother Hollis to conduct a week's meeting in August. A tentative date of the 9th through the 16th has been set for this meeting.

Presently the church meets in the Service Center Building on the Raleigh Road. A lot has been purchased in a favorable location, and plans are for construction of a building at the earliest possible date.

Gastonia

PAUL S. GRAY, Reporting: Even though progress has not reached the point which we had hoped for some encouraging things have happened in the past month. Our educational program has a supervisor, a committee has been delegated authority to inaugurate a visitation program, an accurate and complete membership list is being compiled, a new brick illuminated sign is being erected on the front lawn, and the contribution reached $300.00 last Sunday.

In the near future we hope to see increased attendance at all services and also an increase of interest in all phases of the work of the church. August 4 to 12th I shall be in a meeting at Gallipolis, Ohio. The two days following we hope to attend the OHIO VALLEY LECTURESHIP at Westerville, Ohio. One day at BLUE RIDGE last month was a real pleasant experience as we saw brethren whom we knew from at least seven states.

Statesville, Abilene

WILLIAM H. LOVE, Reporting: January 1964 through May, 1964 we have averaged 134 present per Sunday for the morning worship. For the five month period just prior to this, our average was 119. This shows an average increase in attendance at the worship hour of 15 per Sunday. We had two highs which were over 160 (162 and 168) per Sunday.

The Bible School on Sunday morning showed an average increase of 8 per Sunday. We have had 10 Sundays in the last five months with more than 100 present as against 3 Sundays with over 100 in the five months previous to this.

We conducted our Vacation Bible School the week of June 7 which was a big success. This was the first VBS that had been held here since 1962.

Our meeting was held June 21 through June 26 with Bro. Brown Kinnard, Jr., of Springfield, Pa. doing the preaching. The services were well attended. Bro. Kinnard presented a series of fine lessons. One young boy was baptized.

Winston-Salem, South Main

W. E. SKIPPER, Reporting: After three years of fruitful work with the church in Cameron, West Va. arrangements have been made for us to locate in Winston-Salem, N. C. We will be working with the South Main St. congregation in that city. After August 17 our new address will be 2410 Byrd Avenue, Winston-Salem, N. C.

We are looking forward to a pleasant and fruitful work with the preachers in the Carolinas. When you are in Winston visit with us either in our home or at worship.

I have enjoyed the fine articles that have appeared in the Carolina Christian.

Greenville

C. E. MANNON, Reporting: The church here rejoices in four promising young people becoming obedient to the gospel this year, one of whom was our oldest son who already leads singing. We are thankful for a new family of Christians coming to us this summer. We take courage as the church here enters its fourth year this month. Jimmie Dorris, of Nashville, Tennessee is due here for a gospel meeting series Oct. 18-25. The possibility of a Campaign for Christ here next spring is unfolding. The Carolina Christian is highly appreciated. Bro. Virgil Hale's recent article on Absenteeism was outstanding. We extend kindest regards and best wishes to the brotherhood. Pray for us.

Tryon

KEN WILLIS, Reporting: From June 28 through July 3 the church in Tryon was engaged in a Campaign for Christ. The church in Portland, Tennessee, assisting the work here, sent its minister, Bro. Maurice O'Neal, to do the preaching in these services. Besides Bro. and Sister O'Neal, there were eight ladies from Tennessee who took their vacation to come here and work in this effort. In all, there were sixteen workers contacting and inviting people to the services. Although there were no responses to the Lord's invitation, three had been baptized shortly before the meeting, and there were non-members present at each service as a result of the personal work. Many doors of opportunity have been opened, and two cottage meetings have been arranged through the efforts of these workers.

Our vacation Bible School is planned for August 3-7.

Wilmington

HOWARD WINTERS, Reporting: I will be terminating my work here on August 2nd. I have accepted an invitation from the good people in Burlington to work with them, beginning on August 9th. After that date, my new address will be 418 Tryon St., Burlington, N. C.

Our work in Wilmington has not been spectacular; but knowing where the church was when I came here, knowing the road over which it has come, and knowing where it now is, I leave deeply gratified (but not satisfied) with our accomplishments. During the two years here we have been instrumental in: restoring fellowship between the church here and at Carolina Beach; overcoming a church quarrel-and split that had longlasting and far-reaching results; recovering the church here from a weak, divided, confused condition; baptising 20 people, about half of which never heard of the church before our moving here; restoring a number of very useful members; starting and conducting what we believe to be a very successful radio program; seeing the church grow from an active membership of 13 to one of about 35, and a large number of other minor things. All in all our stay in Wilmington has been a good one and a happy one for both my family and I. We leave with a deep sense of gratitude to our God for making these two years possible. We also leave the church in good condition to grow--a church that IS ON ITS WAY UP.

We look forward with pleasure and great anticipation to our work in Burlington.

Valdese

MADELINE C. BROWN, Reporting: T. A. Isaacs of New Orleans, La. did the preaching in a good meeting, but with no visable results. Average attendance was 57, but reached a high of 79 on the last night of the meeting. Seventy-Five attended the singing on Sunday afternoon with some excellent singing. At least 20 non-members attended this meeting, most of them attending regularly each night. Some of these local people had never attended a meeting with the church of Christ before and were very much impressed with the simple Gospel.

The average in our vacation Bible school which was conducted the week before the meeting was 61 with a high of 73. On Friday there was a picnic for all the children and parents, with open house to show the work of the children during the school. We hope to get some new pupils enrolled in our regular Sunday morning classes as a result of some good contacts made in our Bible school.

The J.C. Gregory family moved to Morganton, from Kinstree, S. C. and will be worshipping with us in future. We welcome this family into our midst.

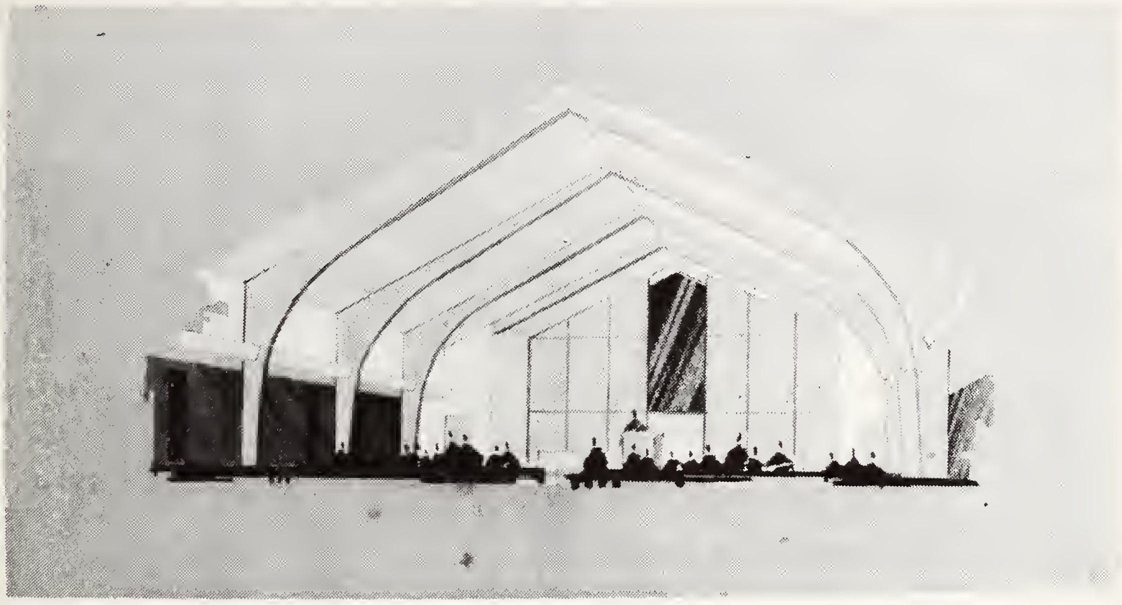
SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

Ralph R. Seiders, minister of the Park Street church in Columbia, terminated his work there on July 19, to move to St. Albany, West Virginia where he will work with the Washington Street church of Christ. He also served as Circulation Manager for the Carolina Christian, and was a member of the Board of Directors. Brother Seiders writes, "I enjoyed my association with the paper, and would have continued to work here in the Carolinas if a desirable move could have been arranged. I trust that the Lord will richly bless the work of the Carolina Christian and all of you who serve the paper. It can do a wonderful work for the growth of the Kingdom here in the Carolinas."

We certainly will suffer a loss at Brother Seiders' departure from the Carolinas, but our prayers are in his behalf as he and his family accept a new challenge in the Lord's work.

Columbia, Park Street

RALPH SEIDERS, Reporting: The churches of Christ in the greater Columbia area are now presenting the HERALD OF TRUTH radio program each Sunday morning. The program originates from WQXL, 1430 kc., at 7:35 a.m.



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Greenville, Augusta Road

CARL LANCASTER, Reporting: In an effort to improve the efficiency of the work of the congregation seven committees were recently appointed after the members had indicated the various functions they were willing to participate in.

Through the help of a Christian stationed in N.Y. in the Air Force, another door of opportunity was opened to the church here two months ago. Arrangements were made to conduct a Bible class each Wednesday afternoon in the Greenville Stocade, the jail for women for this county. Fifteen to 20 inmates are present at the class and give splendid attention. It proves to be a very challenging opportunity!

David Pharr of Rock Hill, S. C. is scheduled to do the preaching in our fall meeting Sept. 7-13.

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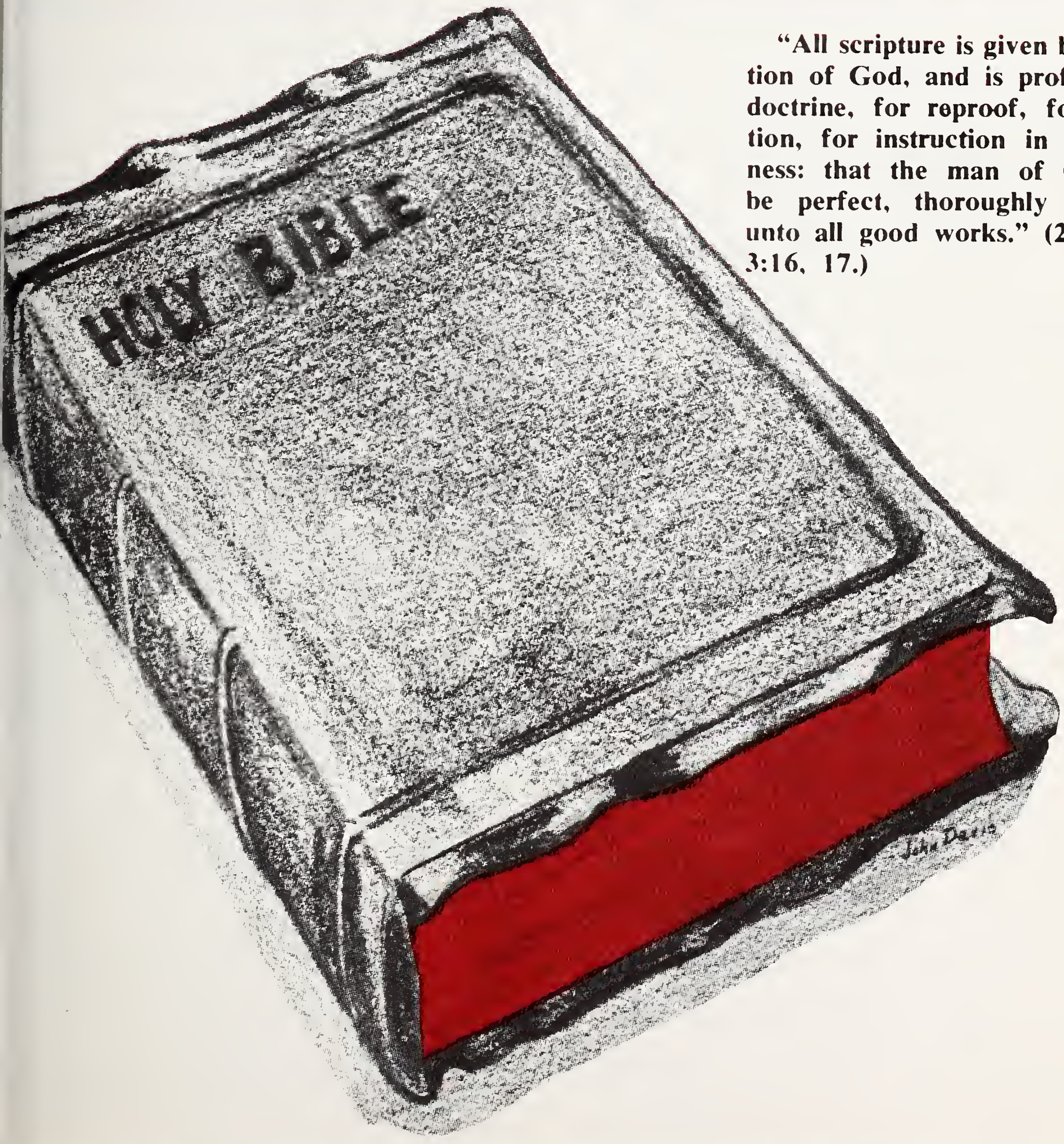

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (2 Timothy 3:16, 17.)

SEPTEMBER, 1964 VOLUME 6 NO. 9

WHAT IS INSPIRATION?

Paul Kidwell, Charlotte, N. C.

The Bible is the inspired word of God. What do we know that what we say is true? On a television panel program in Charlotte, a group of "clergymen" were discussing the teachings of the apostle Paul with regard to marriage. One of the preachers advanced the idea, (and the others seemingly concurred) that the teachings of Paul were somewhat slanted because, "he was an old bachelor." The conclusion drawn by the preachers was that Paul was simply writing the instructions from his own knowledge and since he was "an old bachelor", he was not qualified to speak on this subject. Yet, and this is the amazing part, each of these preachers would no doubt profess a belief in the inspiration of the scriptures. Many religious leaders speak of inspiration but they are, in reality, opposed to the traditional view regarding the subject.

Inspiration, to some men, is understood to be nothing more than "natural inspiration." This view holds the Bible to be inspired only in the sense that Milton, Shakespeare, and other writers were inspired to write. This view makes the Bible to be merely a product of genius. Those who hold this view are many. The work of the Holy Spirit is completely ruled out in the production of the Bible, according to this view. But then, to some the Holy Spirit is completely ruled out in the production of the Bible, according to this view. But then, to some the Holy Spirit is nothing more than a noble influence. The supernatural is completely eliminated in the religion of the modernist. The seminaries and publishing houses of many of the prominent denominations are completely in the hands of the "liberal" element. Religion has become simply and solely a "social" function. This attitude, emanating from the pulpit, has engulfed the pew. One reason for the lack of respect for the authority of the scriptures is the fact that many who preach are not convinced that the scriptures are a product of God.

Others, in speaking of inspiration, hold to the view of "Universal Christian Inspiration." The idea is advanced that every age produces men who are "inspired." The prominent religious leaders and preachers of the age thus elevated to a position of equlity with the apostles and the writers of the New Testament. To many, the writings of Graham, Peale, and others are to be taken as "law and gospel."

Still others hold to the view we may call "partial inspiration." This view has most probably developed as a result of rationalization. Some have become confused at the claim of skeptics that the Bible is inconsistent. In order to avoid any difficulty, some have thus taken the position that a part of the Bible is the work of God, the remainder being the product of man. The scriptures which deal with accounts which

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contradict some wild "theory" of some scientist are thus discounted. Some people have refused to accept the account of creation in Genesis on this basis. The accounts of miracles are written off as superstitions and mis-understandings of the day.

None of the above definitions will harmonize with Bible teaching. The liberal and the modernist use the term inspiration, but they do not mean the same thing we mean. In the pulpits of our land, many preachers practice "mental reservation" when they speak of inspiration.

The Bible is the inspired word of God. It is fully, completely inspired. It is not simply a product of genius. It did not originate with man. It is God's book. This is what we mean by inspiration. "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit..." (2 Peter 1:21.) The Holy Spirit guided the writings of the Bible. Word by word was transferred from God to man to copy. Paul says, "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, ..." The fact that the style of writing identifies the writer in some instances, does not weigh against the claim for verbal inspiration. The Holy Spirit could dictate very appropriately a word by word message, using the words available in the vocabulary of the writer.

On the day of Pentecost (Acts 2), the apostles were "filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance..." This is inspiration in speaking. The message of the apostles was not their message, but that of the Holy Spirit. The apostles could claim no responsibility for its origin, it came from the Holy Spirit. In fact, the argument for verbal inspiration is made more definite by the very events of this day. When Peter spoke the words of Acts 2:39, not only do we claim they did not originate with him, but also we can establish the fact that he did not even understand the full impact of the words he spoke. Viz. "For the promise is unto you, (Jews PK),and to your children, (Jews PK), and, to all that are afar off (Gentiles PK), even as many as the Lord our God shall call." Peter was saying that Jew and Gentile alike have the same right to the promise of the gospel. Yet, several years passed before the first Gentile was approached with the message of salvation. Before Peter would be ready to preach the gospel to Cornelius, it was necessary that God repeat a vision three times, Acts 10: 11 ff, have Cornelius relate the fact of the angel's appearance and message, and then send the Holy Spirit upon these Gentiles. Then Peter was made to see just what he had already stated years before, "I perceive that God is no respecter of persons,: but in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness is accepted with him," (Acts 10:34f.) The conclusion; Peter spoke words, the full meaning of which he did not comprehend. The Old Testament writers wrote, and then sat down to wonder what they had written. Their prophecies of Christ could not have originated in their minds.

Shelby

TOM BOLICK, Reporting: The church here has great potential. The "anti" element is now completely gone. We had an excellent meeting in June and our Monday thru Friday radio program has been so well received that the station has reduced our rates $50 per month.

NEW PRICES NOW EFFECTIVE

For more than five years now this magazine has been published. Many marked improvements have been made. Many, many people have contributed freely of their time and money to accomplish this. But quality costs! The Board of Directors unanimously voted to make the following price increases to enable Carolina Christian to continue with its present high standard of quality. This is the first price increase in five years of publication!

Individual subscription. .	$2.50 per year.
Club of five or more . . .	$2.00 per year.
Bundles of 15 or more . . .	13¢ per copy.
Mailing lists	15¢ per copy.

External Evidences Of Inspiration

Johnny C. Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.

"The heavens declare the glory of God: And the firmament showeth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, And night unto night showeth knowledge. There is no speech nor language; Their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world." Psalms 19: 1-4.

In spite of the abundant evidences of the Supreme Being, we are living in a world of unbelief! Wyatt Sawyer, author of Must The Young Die Too, has written, "In 1945 all men professing Christ in any way numbered about one-third of the earth's population. At our present rate of Bible distribution and mission work (by all religious groups in Christendom) the Christian world will comprise (only, JCS) one-fifth of the world's population." According to The World Almanac there are some 333,000,000 Hindu people, 430,000,000 Moslems, 300,000,000 Confucianists and 152,000,000 Buddhists. Atheistic Communism dominates 700,000,000 Chinese and 200,000,000 Russians plus those in Communist block elsewhere. One million babies are born in to this world every day and they are going to be something religiously and, furthermore, they are going to be something other than Christians if we fail to take the saving word to them---along with the evidences that it is indeed the Word of the Living God!

EVOLUTION

From elementary school through college our children are confronted with materialistic evolution; i.e., the idea that man has descended naturally from lower forms of animal life at some time far distant without Divine interposition. This idea is taught as if it were fact and it is something preached as if it were religion. Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines Evolution as: "... the THEORY (emphasis mine, JCS) that the various types of animals and plants have their origin in other pre-existing types, the distinguishable differences being due to modifications in successive generations." I contend that public schools which are not permitted to teach religion should not be permitted to teach as a fact unproved theories to the undermining of the faith of thousands! With atheistic evolution the beginning and end is naturalism, there being no place for the supernatural. Such a theory demands natural spontaneous generation, the bringing of living matter from the non-living. This reminds me of a statement from the Encyclopedia Britannica: "Zoological writings of the middle ages were full of recipies for the generation of such forms as flies, bees and even mice from non-living constitutents. It was not until the 19th. century, however, that carefully controlled experiments of L. Pasteur put an end to the belief in the spontaneous generation of observable species of micro-organisms." May someone arise who will put an end to the belief in spontaneous, natural generation of any kind!

Dr. Austin H. Clark of the Smithsonian Institute is quoted in Modern Science and Christian Faith as saying, "No matter how far back we go in the fossil records of previous animal life upon the earth we find no trace of animal forms which are intermediate between the various major groups of phyla... The greatest groups of animal life do not merge into one another. They are and have been fixed from the beginning. No animals are known even from the earliest rocks which cannot at once be assigned to their proper phylum or major groups... There can be only one interpretation of this entire lack of any intermediate between the major groups of animals. If we are willing to accept the facts at their face value we must believe that there were no such intermediates; in other words, that these major groups from the very beginning bore the same relation to each other that they do at the present day." To this Dr. Gerritt Miller in The New Evolution adds, "The complete absence of any intermediate forms between the major animal groups, which is one of the most striking and one of the most significant phenomena brought out by zoology, has hitherto been overlooked or at least ignored." G. K. Hebbert, a British lepidopterist said, "The evidence of fossils very definitely favors creation and not the evolution theory. The evolution theory bristles with anatomical and bio-chemical difficulties."

What was called the Piltdown man, discovered in Sussex, England in 1912, was supposed to supply the missing link between man and ape. Evolutionists used the Piltdown man as a prize specimen---until 1953 when, through chemical tests, the Piltdown man was proved beyond doubt to be a fake. It is now on display in the British Museum, in a corner of the top floor in the department of Prints and Drawings under the title, "Forgeries and Deceptive Copies."

Students, don't be decieved into thinking that materialistic evolution is a fact nor that all esteemed scientists believe the theory. Parents, you had better know the facts about evolution if you hope to compete successfully for the minds of your children! What must children come to be if they are convinced that there is no God in the universe, that they evolved out of the wind without Divine help by naturalisic chance operation and exist without purpose and without hope of life after the grave?

Job said, "...speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee..." Geology has much to say in favor of God. Just let it teach thee!

ARCHAEOLOGY

The importance of archaeology is beyond dispute. J. A. Thompson in his book, The Bible and Archaeology, wrote, "...it is perfectly true to say that Biblical archaeology has done a great deal to correct the mpression that was abroad at the close of the last century and in the early part of this century, that Biblical history was of doubtful trustworthiness in many places. If one impression stands out more clearly than any other today, it is that on all hands the over-all historicity of the Old Testament...is admitted." F. F. Bruce wrote, "Archaeology has indeed corroborated the substantial historicity of the Biblical record from the patriarchal to the apostolic age..."

The ruins of the town of Bethshan, to walls of which the bodies of King Saul and his sons were fastened, has been discovered. Digging have proved that the Philistines sometimes built large houses around a central hall supported by pillars. This is a situation that reminds us of Samson's pulling down the temple of Dagon in Judges 16:23-27. The Bible speaks of the casting of metals in the Jordan plains, a great quantity of which would have been necessary in Solomon's construction. 1 Kings 7:46. Nelson Glueck wrote, "In Solomon's time this entire district in the Jordan valley hummed with industrial activity devoted to the turning out of finished metal articles..." Assyrian records tell of a number of historical events which are also recorded in Scripture. In the British Museum is a picture of Jehu, a king of Israel, bowing before Shalmaneser III of Assyria. Time and space will not permit more. A wealth of material is here to strengthen your faith.

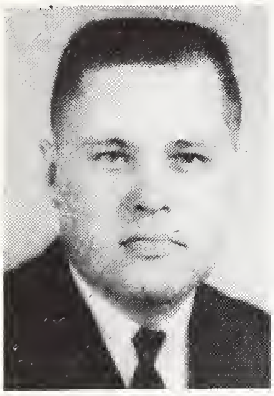
ASTRONOMY

With the great 200 inch telescope on Mount Palomar, according to the book The Evidence of God in an Expanding Universe, man is able to look more than a billion light years into space and see nearly a billion galaxies. Gen. 15:5. Our earth weighs 6,600 billion times a billion tons and the sun has a weight 330,000 times that. Such makes us exclaim, "O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder Consider all the world thy hands have made, And see the stars, and hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed---Then sings my soul, My Saviour God to thee: How great thou art, how

(see page 11)

The Scriptures Evidence Of Inspiration

Richard Harp, Lancaster, S. C.



Are the Scriptures of the Bible of human origin, or is there sufficient evidence within the Bible to prove that it is both perfect and divine? By its own declaration of inspiration, its honesty of style, and its unity one can see that the writing is too comprehensive to have been produced by man's intelligence.

The Old Testament prophets never guessed or expressed any doubt as to what they wrote. Their message was declared by a "Thus saith the Lord" or "The Lord hath spoken." The apostles certified that they received what they wrote by direct revelation from God. "For no prophecy ever came by the will of man: but men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit." (II Pet. 1:21.) "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto every good work." (2 Tim. 3:16, 17.) Note that the apostles say "all" scriptures came from God.

The style of the written Word is honest and impartial. Never are the mistakes and sins of God's people censored, but are actually recorded. Abraham is called "the father of all them that believe," however when he misled Pharaoh concerning his wife, Sarah, the incident is written just as it happened. (Gen. 12:14-20.) Moses killed an Egyptian and Aaron made an idol for the Israelites to worship, but the Bible does not white-wash these mistakes. Never has there been another king and his wife who could equal the treachery and wickedness of Ahab and Jezebel. David, in a moment of weakness, took another man's wife. Judas, one of the Lord's chosen apostles, deceitfully betrayed him for a few pieces of silver. Peter denied Christ three times within a few hours after declaring his faith. Yet, all of these accounts are set forth without any bias whatsoever. The Bible reveals that God's people were defeated because of sin and idolatry. They were victorious, not because of the leadership of some man, but because God was with them. Very seldom do ordinary authors point out the mistakes of good men in their works, but usually praise them highly and excuse those who do fall short. The only way to explain this honest and frank style of writing is that it came from a Master Mind.

The complete unity of the Scriptures attest their inspiration. There can be found no contradictions, yet it was penned by about 40 men on at least two continents over a period of 1,600 years. These men came from all walks of life such as: judges, prophets, kings, patriarchs, priests, farmers, fishermen, scribes, soldiers, a doctor, a tax-collector, and many others. There were some from the city and some from the country. Some of them were wealthy and some were poor. All of them wrote under a variety of conditions from tents to palaces, from desert places to chief cities. Paul wrote some of his epistles from a Roman prison. The apostle John was probably exiled on the Island of Patmos when he penned Revelation. Nevertheless, put all 66 books together and there is perfect harmony from the beginning to the end.

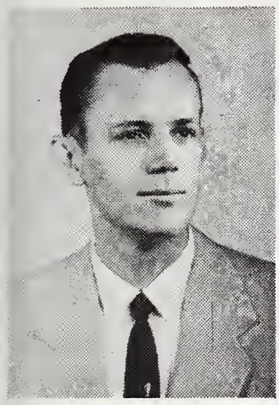
Though the apostles never saw the prophets they agreed upon the doctrines of the Bible and often quoted from the prophets as a further proof of their own truthfulness. (Rom. 1:17.) The people of Berea believed Paul's news about the Christ only after they had "searched the scriptures" and realized that his message was a fulfillment of what had been promised centuries before.

The Bible commands, "Let God be true

(See page 9)

FULFILLED PROPHECY: EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Harold L. Scott, Statesville, N. C.



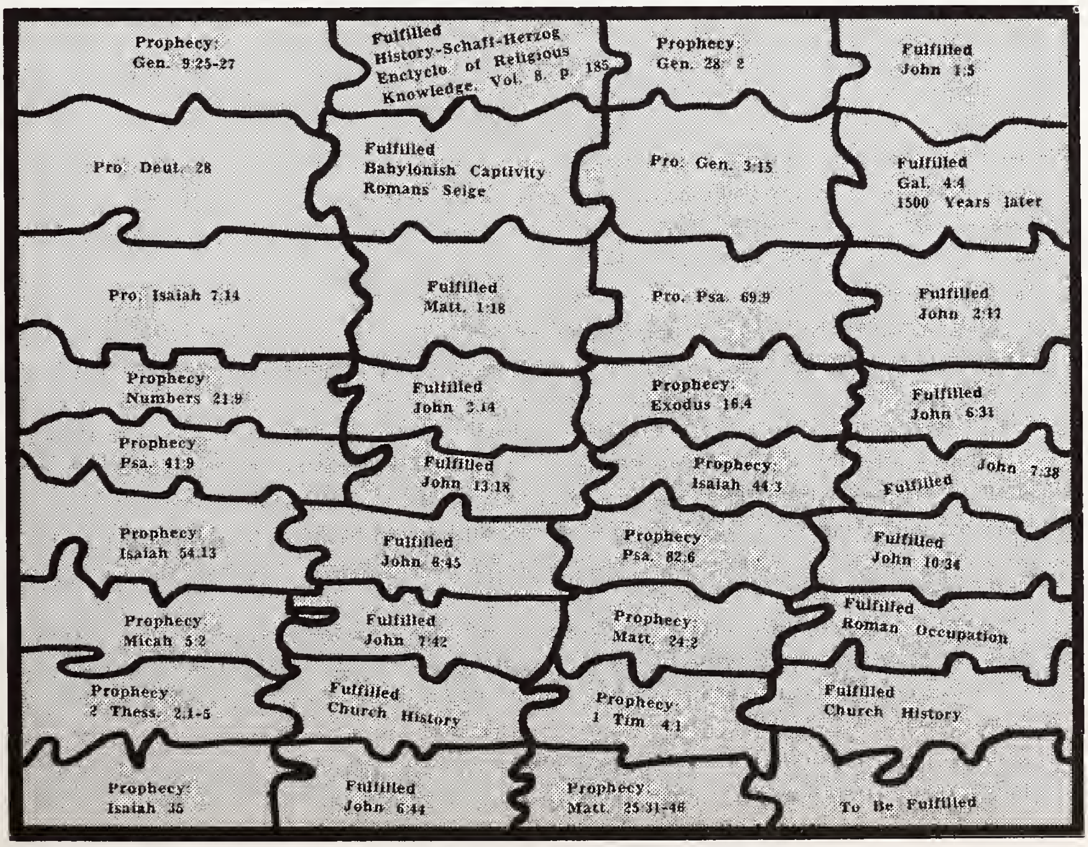
Do you like to work jig-saw puzzles? Have you ever worked a puzzle with over a thousand pieces? If so, you may have marveled at the way each piece, after you found its place, fit perfectly into the whole puzzle making a complete picture.

Suppose that your puzzle had been made by some 50 men who did not know each other or what the completed puzzle would look like. Suppose they never came in contact with each other and were even separated in time by as much as 1500 years. Yet, each piece of the puzzle, when brought together, fit perfectly. You would exclaim that this was a miracle. It could not be accidental and fraud could be ruled out by historical testimony.

Biblical prophecy and its fulfillment is like this miraculous jig-szw puzzle. The Bible is full of prophecies which are accepted by scholars to have been written long before their fulfillment, yet they were fulfilled in detail. Eldersheim lists 456 prophecies concerning Christ that have been fulfilled. (Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah Vol. II p. 710) Add to this the prophecies classified as "Historical Events," which concern nations, cities, families, and world history. Some of these which have been fulfilled are Gen. 9:25-27; Deut. 28; Jeremiah 27:3-7; Daniel 8 and 9; Isaiah 23; Ezekiel 26 & 27; Joel 3. (See Abilene Christian College Lectures, 1960, The Christian Faith in the Modern World, p. 106-112)

Add to these Old Testament prophecies those of the New Testament which were given by Christ and the apostles, and the completed puzzle with its interlocking pieces of prophecy and fulfillment is a miracle of inspiration. Only God could have directed the making of each piece, made over a span of 1500 years, so that each fits perfectly together to form much of our Bible and to prove its inspiration. The illustration below will use only a few prophecies and their fulfillment which prove to us that our Bible is truly from superhuman sources.

Two additional prophecies, made by the apostles, have not yet been fulfilled but in view of the hundreds which have already been accurate, we know that these too shall come to pass. These prophecies concern us. They are: Revelation 20:12-15; 2 Pet. 3:10. Let us prepare ourselves accordingly.


Prophecy: Gen. 9:25-27
Fulfilled History-Schaff-Herzog Enclyclo of Religious Knowledge, Vol. 8, p. 185
Prophecy: Gen. 28: 2
Fulfilled John 1:5
Pro: Deut. 28
Fulfilled Babylonish Captivity Romans Seige
Pro: Gen. 3:15
Fulfilled Gal. 4:4 1500 Years later
Pro: Isaiah 7:14
Fulfilled Matt. 1:18
Pro. Psa. 69:9
Fulfilled John 2:17
Prophecy: Numbers 21:9
Fulfilled John 3:14
Prophecy: Exodus 16:4
Fulfilled John 6:31
Prophecy: Psa. 41:9
Fulfilled John 13:18
Prophecy: Isaiah 44:3
John 7:38 Fulfilled
Prophecy: Isaiah 54:13
Fulfilled John 6:45
Prophecy: Psa. 82:6
Fulfilled John 10:34
Prophecy: Micah 5:2
Fulfilled John 7:42
Prophecy: Matt. 24:2
Fulfilled Roman Occupation
Prophecy: 2 Thess. 2:1-5
Fulfilled Church History
Prophecy: 1 Tim. 4:1
Fulfilled Church History
Prophecy: Isaiah 35
Fulfilled John 6:44
Prophecy: Matt. 25:31-46
To Be Fulfilled

ALLEGED BIBLE CONTRADICTIONS

ALLEGED BIBLE CONTRADICTIONS

C. W. Fetters

As we survey the wonders of nature, we are made to recognize that a supreme power and law is at work. With the intelligence and knowledge that man has at his disposal today, he is still unable to comprehend the handiwork of God in its fulness. Through his infinite wisdom, God designed a means whereby man could learn more of him and his law. God's Word, the Bible, becomes nothing more or less than God's revelation to man. In it he has revealed unto man, himself; examples of those who were faithful to him and those who were not; Christ Jesus, his Son and our Savior; an eternal love and hope; and also a revelation of His heavenly kingdom and the eternal glorious reign of the saints with him and His Son. Yet down through the ages men have scoffed at it, denied it, ridiculed it, and have gone to great lengths to show forth alleged contradictions in his divine masterpiece. In supporting such alleged contradictions men deny the authenticity of the Bible, make void God's word, and create God as an author of confusion and a liar.

The prophet Isaiah states in Isa. 55:8 & 9, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Man in his finite intellect has attempted to produce contradictions in God's word because of his irrational, illogical, and un-methodical study, which has brought about mis-understanding of the Bible scriptures. To say there are no difficulties in studying God's word would be to claim to know all there is to know about it and to have a complete understanding of it. Undoubtedly most of the alleged discrepancies have originated in the imagination of the critics.

Alleged discrepancies have done more to advance the truth and enhance it's position and purpose than it has to hinder it. The question that is obviously asked is, "how can this be?" Basically when critics began to create or produce alleged contradictions and discrepancies from God's word, they began to stimulate human intellect. Men with honest hearts began to search out the scriptures. A deeper interest was aroused in men of faith of God's word to stem the tide of the critics accusations. Even the very character and motive of man has been revealed by Bible difficulties. Those who approach these difficulties with a reverent attitude, in meekness, and with a desire to search out the truth, find their faith is established to greater proportions. But, those who approach the same difficulties with an attitude of irreverence, arrogance, and defiance finds his study serving only one purpose; that of denying a truth rather than substantiating a contradiction.

What have been the causes of alleged bible contradictions? We can find volumes prepared by men, with searching hearts, containing reasons for the introduction of contradictions by Bible critics. Neither time nor space would allow an analogy of all of them, so this writer offers just a few for the readers consideration.

Many alleged discrepancies have been introduced through an erroneous interpretation of God's message. Men have taken scriptures to mean something entirely different than that which God intended for it to. The very nature of man is an important factor for arising difficulties with the scriptures. Scriptures attest to the fact that all men sin. This immediately places him on the offensive with the truth. He is unable to discern the truth many times because of an evil heart and unwillingness to submit himself to the truth.

From this attitude we can readily see why difficulties arise.

Differences of authorship of parts of the Bible have been used as reasons for alleged contradictions. As we survey the pages of divine revelation, we find conflict between the forces of evil and good; inspired men and uninspired men; righteousness and unrighteousness; and conflict between God and Satan. As one studies this divine pattern he must first understand why it was made, for what purpose; and to whom it was made. One must search out to see if the inspired writer is endorsing what is being said or if he is nothing more than the narrator. For example, in Genesis the 3rd chapter we find what seems at first a contradiction in God's word. God said man would surely die if he ate of the tree of life and in the following verse we find the exact opposite, that man would surely not die. Analyzing the two passages very carefully though immediately indicates to the intelligent student that the one statement is a truth from God, whereas the second statement is merely a narration of an untruth from Satan, the serpent. There is no contradiction here although men have attempted to create one. Many similar passages could be sighted.

A good background of the original manuscripts and their literal translations can refute another area of alleged contradictions. Just as we find one word having more than one meaning in our language today, men must acknowledge the fact that such was the same when the inspired writers penned the scriptures. Improper translation of the original manuscripts have caused errors to exist today that are not found in the original. The guilt then does not go back to the original, but, to the translator. I am told that the word "barak" in the Hebrew was used to mean both to bless and to curse. In our version of the scriptures the word let is used interchangeably to mean to permit or to hinder. Also, notice the word cleave that we are familiar with in our present day language. It is used in the contradictory sense of clinging to and also severing from contradiction? Definitely not. The words must be analyzed as to their meaning in light of the thought and text from which, they are taken.

Men have tried to introduce alleged contradictions because the various writers did not convey the same thought or incidents in the same detail or manner. It is important to note that inspiration did not destroy the individuality or self control of these inspired writers. Nor did inspiration give a perfect knowledge of any one subject or all subjects to these men. Inspiration was a miraculous process and was not a natural elevation of man's spirit. The very fact that little space is given the earth shaking event of Christ's crucifixion in the scriptures evidences the fact that these men were inspired of God to record in a concise manner and yet vividly, this event. Volumes exist today to attest to men's attempts to describe the same event. Because of their individuality we find one writing in chronological order, another in customary phraseology, another to principle of association, another minutely, and yet another by expanding or condensing the same event or thought. Reading all such writings gives the intelligent reader a more complete picture of God's intended revelation.

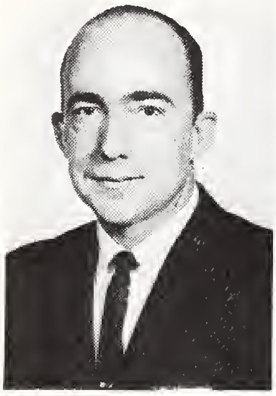
To say that difficulties are not present and do not exist in the scriptures is to claim to know all that God revealed to man. An early writer, Origen, very aptly stated, "He who believes the scripture to have proceeded from him who is the Author of nature, may well expect to find the same sort of difficulties in it as are found in the constitution of nature." Let us approach scriptural difficulties with searching hearts and an intelligent attitude, not for the sake of refuting a contradiction, but for the purpose of gaining a better insight of a truth from God's Word.

SCRIPTURES EVIDENCE (Cont'd)

but every man a liar." (Rom. 3:4.) The Scriptures challenge us to study and understand them just as God gave them. By doing so we shall not be living by the will of man but by the Will of God.

IS THE BIBLE AS WE HAVE IT

Wayne Altman, Albermarle, N. C.



"I don't care what the Revised Version says, My Bible says 'corn' and it means what it says." Sound familar? It should for it reflects a common problem in Bible classes today, and since many students are not so outspoken, it may be even more common than we realize.

What is happening? New translations are making their presence felt. Although the King James Version is still by far the most commonly used, the newer translations are becoming increasingly popular. A survey of Bible classes would reveal several different translations in use and that passages being studied are sometimes read from all versions present. In some cases, the variant readings are strikingly different. (See Acts 20:7 in the New English Bible.) Obviously those who have been nurtured on the King James Version are going to be disturbed unless they are familiar with how we got our Bible and know something of the complexities of translation. They have always believed that the Bible "means what it says," but upon hearing different translations, they begin to wonder, "What does the Bible say?" And unless they learn the reasons for the different readings, they will begin to wonder if the Bible, as we have it, really is the inspired Word of God.

What are the reasons for these variant readings? Basically, two factors are involved: (1) Some translations are based upon slightly different Hebrew and Greek texts; and (2) Differences in translation.

The first of these deals with the transmission of the text, or the "handing down of the Bible." We do not possess the original writings. What we have is a copy. In the process of transmission, the Bible has been copied many, many times. Inevitably, copyists' errors have crept into the text. This is not surprising. The surprising thing is that there are not any more. F. F. Bruce says,

Fortunately, if the great number of MSS (copies-WA) increases the number of scribal errors, it increases proportionately the means of correcting such errors, so that the margin of doubt is not so large as might be feared; it is in truth remarkably small. The variant readings about which any doubt remains among textual critics of the New Testament affect no material question of historic fact or of Christian faith and practice. (The New Testament Documents, Are They Reliable? (London: The Inter-Varsity Fellowship, 1960), pp. 19f.)

My personal Bible has two typographical (copyist's) errors in it, but in each case the error is so minor that I can tell from the context the correct reading. Now most of the copyists' errors in the Hebrew and Greek text, although more numerous, were just that simple. Therefore as new and better manuscripts were found, scholars were able to make corrections and this in turn led to revisions of our English Bible.

The second problem, that of translating the Biblical languages into English, concerns a most difficult task. A "word for word" translation, even if there were always an equivalent term, would be impossible because of a difference in syntax. Therefore the translator must find the word, or in some cases the idea, which is nearest in meaning and put it into an understandable English construction. Obviously since there is room for a difference of opinion in some cases, and different ways to express the same meaning, there will be differences in translation. But if you use one of the standard translations, i.e., King James, American Standard, or the Revised Standard, you have the benefit of the judgment of a panel of scholars and not just an individual as in the case of the Phillips Version.

EXTERNAL EVIDENCES (Cont'd)

great thou art." The imprint of the Master is also seen in the intricacies of the trillions and trillions of microscopic cells and unseen atoms and molecules. The harmony of the universe shows forth a Designer and this One has spoken to us in the Scriptures. With Frances Bacon we can say, "A little philosophy inclines man to atheism; a depth of philosophy brings him to religion."

Astronomy and the microscope point us to the Master Designer of the universe. Geology points us to the One who made man out of the dust of the earth and gave him life. Archaeology shows that this Master Designer and Creator could have been no other than the author of the Holy Scriptures. "Blessed Bible, how I love it. How it doth my bosom cheer. What hath earth like this to covet, Oh, what stores of wealth are here. Man was lost and doomed to sorrow; Not one ray of light or bliss could he from earth's treasurers borrow till his life was cheered by this."

LET'S ALL GO TO - - -

FALL MEETING

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 1101 STATE STREET

MARION, N. C.

PREACHING BY PAUL VINING, CARUTHERSVILLE, MO.

OCTOBER 12-18, 1964 - - 7:30 PM

HEAR

MAURICE M. HOWELL
OF PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS
IN A
GOSPEL MEETING
AT THE
CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
SPARTANBURG, S. C.
OCTOBER 11-18
7:30 PM DAILY

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny C. Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.

A. R. HOLTON, 73, departed this life quitely in his sleep at Abilene, Texas August 6. Holton a gospel preacher for 53 years, had an illustrious career in Christian service. He served as minister of churches of Christ in Norman, Oklahoma, Sherman, Texas, Detroit, Michigan, Nashville, Tennessee and Washington D. C. He was President of the Thorp Spring Christian College prior to 1917, taught New Testament in the Oklahoma School of Religion at the University of Oklahoma and was a missionary to Korea for four years. On May 25 of this year he was awarded the honorary Doctor of Laws degree by Abilene Christian College.

On the last night of the two week Campaign for Christ conducted in DALLAS, TEXAS more than 12,000 people jammed Memorial Auditorium and another 2,000 were turned away because the crowd was beyond the capacity of the auditorium. Total responses to the gospel during the meeting numbered 727, including 222 baptisms and 505 restorations. Average nightly audiences of 8,400 heard JIMMY ALLEN of Searcy, Arkansas preach Christ.

Under the direction of FRED WALKER 45 workers from 18 states conducted a second campaign in GLASGOW, SCOTLAND August 13-September 15. Some 100 congregations contributed to this undertaking and among the avenues of teaching used was the distribution of 15,000 tracts by the personal workers.

Ten gospel preachers from the United States departed August 4 to participate in a campaign in BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND August 9-19. BILL HATCHER, Lubbock, Texas, was the preacher and JACK EXUM, Dallas, Texas, was director of personal work. Exum has announced plans to move to Ireland as a missionary June 1, 1965. The Walnut Hill congregation in Dallas, which Exum now serves as minister, has assumed his full support for the Ireland work. Ireland is a country 200 miles long and 120 miles wide with a population of 4 1/2 million. The population in the south is 99% Roman Catholic. In the north it is 65% Protestant and 35% Roman Catholic. SANDY COOPER, a native of Ireland, points out that Ireland is a country long neglected in our mission work, but one of great potential, not only from the standpoint of the great number of lost souls there, but also from the readiness of many of the people to study and accept New Testament Christianity when it is presented.

For the past two years the officials of GEORGIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, Valdosta, Georgia, have studied the possibilities of expanding their work and have determined to begin an orphan care program this fall. There is no orphan home operated by members of the church of Christ in the state of Georgia. Officials say that letters from Welfare people and others in contact with homeless children indicate that if facilities were available for 1,000, the facilities could be filled immediately. Beginning as they are able, 20 children will be given homes this Fall and others will be accommodated as cottages can be built.

The sixth cottage of the MADISON CHILDREN'S HOME has been built. This work, under the direction of the Madison, Tenn. church, began in 1960. Eighty-five children have received care through this home.

A group of 70 Christian men from the Chicago area met recently to discuss plans for the establishment of a children's home in the greater CHICAGO area. LESTER ALLEN, superintendent of SHULTS-LEWS HOME in Valparaiso, Indiana was the featured speaker. Plans call for the Libertyville-Mudelein church to buy 10 acres of land and for various congregations to erect individual units on the property.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

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Box 714, Taylorsville, N. C.

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Box 134, Lancaster, S. C.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

Charlotte, Westside

JOHNNY C. SEWELL, Reporting: The first week in August we were engaged in the second VBS in the history of this congregation. The average daily attendance was 234 as compared with 200 in 1963. Our fall meeting is planned for October with Ray D. Fullerton, Jr. We expect to be in our new building to be located at 4527 Freedom Drive by the middle of September.

Asheville

LESLIE G. THOMAS, Reporting: The work at Vance Street is moving along in a good way. Two were baptized at the close of our VBS. We are using extra chairs to seat the audiences on Lord's days; and are now in the process of selecting a site for our new building. We are exceeding our weekly budget of $250, but we are going to have to do even more; for we do not plan to ask for outside assistance in our new building program.

We hope to resume our Saturday classes for the Carolina brethren on October 10, at 10 a.m., the Lord willing. We want to give all the preachers time to finish their meeting schedule, and get settled for their fall and winter work, before we begin the classes.

Goldsboro

RAY D. FULLERTON, Reporting: Emphasis in Goldsboro has been on evangelism this year. The church helped support Ray D. Fullerton, Jr., minister, in the Australian Campaign for Christ conducted in Wynnum in May--June. Fullerton handled advance arrangements, served as advertising and publicity man, and was director of personal work. Thirty-two were baptized, one restored and during the followup stage two more were baptized. Two have been baptized there since the Campaign. We will have a fall meeting with Cecil Haffelfinger, La Marque, Texas, preaching. Plans are underway for a years Campaign for Christ culminating in a June climax; details are not yet complete. Considerable personnel turnover here has hurt our work some in recent months but new families are beginning to stabilize us somewhat. August 11 was our seventh anniversary and we hope to be self-supporting by 1966.

Rockingham

BECKY SETTLE, Reporting: On July 5th, slides were shown on the growth of the Church in the Carolinas. They were very inspirational.

We had our VBS July 20-24, with an average attendance of 123.

On July 26th, Ronnie Ulrey, from the Corinth congregation in Woodleaf, N. C. exchanged places with Bill Smith in doing our preaching. We enjoyed having him and his family with us.

The young people of this congregation enjoyed a camp-out July 27-29.

We had ten young people going to Carolina Bible Camp this year.

Greensboro

G. J. HARRIS, Reporting: Bobby L. Simpso of Christianburg, Va. will be preaching in a meeting at W. Floriday St. Church of Christ Aug. 30-September 6.

The church has just finished two class rooms to the building, and is planning to install heating units before cold weather. There will be a singing Sept. 6th.

Gastonia

PAUL S. GRAY, Reporting: Our attendance still suffers as a result of members taking vacations but the contribution remains good. We are working on a complete and accurate membership list which necessitates the inauguration of a visitation program. Two men have been appointed to direct this phase of our work, and we hope much will be accomplished.

October 6 to 14th I will be in a meeting at East Gates Street, Columbus, Ohio; and October 16 to 22nd at Millstone in West Virginia. William B. Kughn of Anniston, Ala. will be here in a meeting in November.

Valdese

MADELINE C. BROWN, Reporting: Since our last report, one teen-age girl has been baptized into Christ. While visiting the Watsons, members of the church here, she learned the truth and obeyed it. She has gone back to her home in Florida. We rejoice with her in this great step in her youth.

Jerry and Brenda Senn, our preacher and his wife were away for two weeks at Carolina Bible Camp. Several children from Valdese also were there as campers.

Kinston

NOYLES E. SEWELL, Reporting: We completed a very successful VBS here in July. A fine young man was baptized in July. Several families have moved away but we are holding our own and expect to reach new heights before the year's end. Seven from here spent one of the finest weeks ever at Carolina Bible Camp. I highly recommend it to every Christian in the Carolinas.

Raleigh

OLAN HICKS, Reporting: GREETINGS to all our friends and fellow Christians in the Carolinas. With joy we returned to N. C. early in August. We are working with the church in Raleigh until January, at which time we will be moving to Statesville. Our work here is turning out to be one of the most pleasant we've ever experienced. This congregation is very efficiently organized, staffed with a lot of individual ability, and filled with warmth and enthusiasm. Its certainly good to be back in "God's Country." We look forward to seeing many of our old friends and fellow-workers again at the various activities as they take place around the two states.

Our home address is 3320 Apache Dr. You may write us at P. O. Box 5424.

The church here will be in need of a regular minister beginning in January. I heartily commend the work to any interested man. The preacher coming here will find himself working with the most efficient team of assistants I've seen anywhere, and in the most pleasant of conditions. There's a great opportunity for a good work here.

Mocksville, North Main Street

CARMEN WALKER, Reporting: VBS was held July 13-17, with an average attendance of 87. Summer school was still in progress at the high school until Thursday which accounted for our low number during the first part of the week.

The following week, July 19-29, we had a most wonderful series of lessons in our gospel meeting by A. W. Chism of Dallas, Texas. Fifteen were baptized.

On July 5th the congregation at N. Main Street appointed two of our most able men Tom Rice and Jim Anderson as elders.

We were sorry to have J. B. and Carol Whitaker leave the work here to go to Huntsville, Ala. At the same time, however, we feel very fortunate in having Louis Savage and his family from Elizabethton, Tennessee coming to work with us here, on August 23rd.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

We have recently concluded a very successful Vacation Bible School at Lancaster. The week before was used in door-

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to-door advertising which was time well spent. About 75% of those who attended were not from Christian families, and we have had some to return for the Sunday Bible classes and worship services. We hope to have two Bible schools next year.

Our meeting is scheduled for October 11-18 with Marvin Bryant. Six of our young people have just returned from an enjoyable week at Carolina Bible camp.

We put out the "welcome mat" for Albert C. Powell who has recently begun work with the church at Bamberg, S. C. In a recent letter to the News Editor he said, "Things are looking good here, and we set a new attendance record Sunday with 46 present. We are planning to begin a new building after the first of the year." Brother Powell moved from South Barre, Vermont and is being supported by the Kingwood Heights church in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

West Columbia

SARA SHEALY, Reporting: Our fall meeting begins September 14-20 at 7:30 P.M. Bro. Billy Davidson from Bristol, Tenn. will do the preaching. We have had two more baptisms recently and five restored. We are still maintaining our budget of $240, but our attendance has dropped due to vacations.

Camden

SUZANNE H. LEE, Reporting: Since C. C. Vaughan left in June to carry the gospel to West Africa, Bro. R. J. Harris has been working with the church here at King and Lyttleton Street. Three ministers who recently visited with us from Augusta, Ga. were V. E. Williamson, Bro. Rouse and Bro. Williams.

Bro. Vaughan reports from Treetown Sierra Leon, West Africa that about 40 souls have been baptized. We are expecting him home the last of August. We ask for your prayers and loyal support in this effort.

Clinton

This summer the church at Clinton has been blessed by several visitors from other states who rejoiced that a congregation was now meeting here. Our meeting with Bro. Parker was well received and many outsiders visited the church for the first time. Our singing in July was a success in every way. The building was filled to overflowing and the singing was the greatest. We wish to thank everyone who has helped us in every way. Our attendance has been very good. Our contribution very good. Continue to pray for us.

Woodruff

OTTIS L. QUALLS, Reporting: Kenneth Willis of Tryon, N.C. is scheduled to do the preaching in our meeting Sept. 20-27. The re-modeling of our church building both inside and out during the past year, plus the recent purchase of house for the preacher including nearly two acres of land has raised the value of our church property here from approx. $18,000 to $45,000. We have cottage meetings that are underway with good interest.

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CHURCH OF CHRIST, WOODRUFF, S. C.

OCTOBER, 1964 VOLUME 6 NO. 10

EDITORIAL: SOWING AND REAPING

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S.C.

One of the great Bible principles is stated by Paul in Galatians 6:7-9. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Man has great possibilities. They may be either for good or evil. God confirmed this fact at the tower of Babel. He said, "Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now NOTHING will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do." (Genesis 11:6.)

If Christians in the Carolinas can harness this power for GOOD, there is no telling what can be accomplished in the Lord's work in the next decade. But we must be ONE! All Carolina Christians must stick together, work and pull together as a great team for the Lord. We must have one language, the language of truth. "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." (1 Corinthians 1:10.)

But if the future is going to be great for the work of Christ we must begin now to sow seed which will produce that future. Do we want to see a congregation in every county, city, and town in the Carolinas ? We must begin today to sow the seed of confidence, desire, and initiative in the heart of every Christian. Christians must be ready to take advantage of the opportunities that will surely come. Do we dream of a Christian school? The seed must be sown today to produce such a school. The money, teachers, and students must come from seed sown in the human heart that will cause a generation to arise that will say, "We need a Christian school; we can have such a school and we will, with the Lord's help, have one." When we speak of the care of orphans and widows, relief of the needy, and missionary work around the world, we are speaking of reaping in the coming years in proportion to our sowing.

We need to sow bountifully so that Carolina Christians will be ready to reap bountifully in world wide mission efforts.

(see page 6)

CAROLINA CHRISTIAN

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THE RESPONSIBILITY OF FREEDOM

C. E. Mannon, Greenville, N.C.

When Yale's commencement was held in June, the new president ended his statement by saying that the degree holder was now entitled to all the "rights and responsibilities" of a Yale degree, whereas in the past one was described as "entitled to all the rights and priviledges." With emphasis being placed upon preserving our national freedom and the rights it guarantees, it becomes equally important and highly appropriate that the same emphasis be given to the responsibilities which this freedom enjoins. For one will not long enjoy, yea, he will not even appreciate his freedom unless he is willing to accept its responsibilities, inasmuch as "every load of jewels carries with it a load of care." In a time of aspiring to maximum freedom and minimum responsibility, let us be reminded that shirking our responsibility becomes a reckless abuse that can turn our freedom into a ghastly mockery. Let us know that what is true of our civil liberty is true of our spiritual freedom as well!

When our Lord and Christ was on earth, to those who believed on him he said: "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31-32) This truth was affirmed to be the word of God (John 17-17), and of this truth Jesus claimed to be the embodiment (John 14:6). Of his mission among men, it is written: "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise partook of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil. And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." (Hebrews 2:14-15) But more than this, our Lord Jesus Christ "gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world," (Galatians 1:4) "who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness," (I Peter 2:24) "who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify himself a different people, zealous of good works." (Titus 2:14).

When Jesus, the great Emancipator, spoke of his truth--"the law of the spirit of life in Christ" (Romans 8:2)--granting freedom, his audience, being Abraham's offspring, could not conceive of being in bondage to any man, but to whom Jesus replied that "whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin." Here, we have emphasis given to our thesis that one's failure to enjoy that freedom guaranteed by Jesus' emancipation proclamation must be attributed either to one's unwillingness to accept the truth or the responsibilities of that freedom which truth brings. While many have "obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine delivered unto them, being then made free from sin to become servants of righteousness" (Romans 6:17-18), it is important to remember that this freedom is not license to do as one pleases, but "as servants of God, and not using liberty for a cloak of wickedness." (I Peter 2:16). Let every Christian know that an unwillingness to accept freedom's responsibilities casts one in the same role of those Jews priding themselves in the lineage of Abraham and blinded to the reality of their being servants of sin, and not of righteousness.

When the Galatian Christians were being urged to stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ had made them free, their instructor hastened to save them from the erroneous conclusion that out of their being free from the prohibitions of Moses' law, they were now licensed to give themselves unto the unbridled lusts of the flesh. Listen: "while you have been called to liberty, only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another." As if to be more emphatic, after listing many sins, the apostle adds: "they which do such things shall not enter the kingdom of God," and then lists those areas of spiritual development wherein our responsibility as free men may be fulfilled.(Read Galatians, Chapter 5).

The principle may be applied in every area of our freedom in Christ. While in the Lord's church, we have no eccliastical Lords among us to enslave our conscience or deprive us of doing all that's right in the exercise of our liberty, yet, let us not forget that higher responsibility to our Lord Jesus Christ "that in all things he might have the preeminence." While we are free from the shackles of denominationalism with all that appeals to party pride and prejudice, let us insist on "giving glory unto God in the church by Christ Jesus." While the gospel of Christ is our guarantee of spiritual freedom, let us not be so simple as to ignore our responsibilities to obey and abide therein continuously and to speak it bodly to the world. While the appointed worship of Jehovah is a glorious expression of freedom in beauty and simplicity, let us accept a personal responsibility to be a regular part of this worship and to participate fully, lest our failures result in our contempt for it and the corruption of it. (Consider freedom's abuse in a miserly, coveteous brother who fails to represent his prosperity on the pretext: "I'm free.")

Further, let us be reminded of our responsibility to be "subject one to another and be clothed with humility,"(I Peter 5:5) "submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God," (Ephesians 5:21) "by love serve one another," (Galatians 5:13) "let nothing be done through strife or vainglory but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves, looking not every man on his own things (only) but every man also on the things of another." (Philippians 2:3-4) "For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." (emphasis C. E. M) In this spirit, the church will be spared the madness of one who conceives his freedom to be an occasion to say and do as he pleases, thus depreciating this freedom to the end of becoming a stumblingblock to the weak. Let us "take heed," for no man is an island!

So the freedom of the new life is a militant freedom--and benevolent as well. As we must fight to have it, we must love to maintain it. As Burke said about the political realm, "the price of liberty is eternal vigilance," so we say about the new life of the Christian--he is free only on condition that he keeps well under the hatches the old tyrants, who are ever plotting and struggling to have dominion once again." As Lincoln spoke of political liberty, may we be alerted concerning the spiritual: "If destruction be our lot we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of freemen, we must live through all time or die by suicide." After all, it is in conflict, not conformity, that freedom has been kept alive--and will be for all time. Otherwise, we surrender our right to exist and are destined to the loss of our identity and to banishment into oblivion.

"But now being made free from sin, and become servants of God, let us have our fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life." (Romans 6:22) Accepting the responsibilities of freedom, we shall be saved from a plunge again into the bondage of corruption from the glorious liberty of the children of God. Let us accept the challenge to know and do what we're sure is true.

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(see page 8)

Problems Confronting The Worshiper

Howard Winters, Burlington, N.C.

One would be worse than naive to deny that the Christian, when he goes to worship, is confronted with a large number of problems. These problems are more acute at certain times and places and in certain age and cultural groups. Some problems are individual, some local, some national, and some are international. I seriously doubt that we can ever remove the problems, in some cases it would be impossible, but we must learn to accept them, and worship in spite of them.

We cannot here discuss all the problems that confront all Christians, but we shall list a few of the more prevalent ones along with a suggested solution. (I do not mean to imply that the solution I suggest will work in every case, nor do I mean to say that it is the only way to solve the problem. If a cut-and-dried solution could be given then the problem would cease to be. Where there is a known solution applied there is no problem, and we are here discussing "Problems confronting the Worshipper." Hence, our solutions are only suggestive.)

1. The irreverence problem. We busy ourselves all week with the hustle-bustle of modern perplexed living; every minute is crowded to its fullest capacity, our schedule is so tight we have to make life a rat race to be at the place of worship on time--if anything goes wrong we are late, and some are late even when everything goes right; but we finally herd the family in just as the song leader announces the first song. Our bodies are in a strained condition, but we made it! Ah, yes, made it, but are our hearts and minds in condition to worship God reverently? Can we in a moments time lay aside the thoughts that have long occupied our minds and reverently approach our God? That is the problem. But obviously the solution to this problem is more time given to the thoughts of and preparation for divine things. Paul's words to the Philippians would not be amiss here, when he said, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, what—soever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Phil. 4:8.) Just a little thought upon the right things can prepare the mind to worship God reverently.

2. The problem of order. There is so much disorder in connection with our worship that space forbids mentioning even a small part. But let us take one for an example, viz., movement. Movement disturbs, regardless of its nature. Yet when we meet to worship, people move from seat to seat; children play over the house; even adults leave and enter frequently; the sound system is repaired; notes are exchanged; letters are written; pictures compared; books read; etc. At one place I preached an old man would rise during the sermon and stand in front of the building and count the audience. At another place, during a meeting, two young girls got up from their seat and went outside and had a "free for all"--needless to say that half the audience moved to the windows to watch the fight. On and on we could go: for there seems to be no end to movement. But to solve most of the problems connected with movement all that is necessary is to put everything in order before the worship starts.

3. The social problem. The black, the white, the rich, the poor, the cultured, the illiterate, etc. all meet on a common level in worship. They are all one--they are all brethren! It is obvious that we have ignored this problem. Some say that it should not exist, others admit it but say that we should not recognize it. Still others feel that it should not be solved. But the problem does exist, and we must deal with it. But how can one race or class learn to respect and appreciate the rights and efforts of another? I think there can

be but one correct answer to this question namely, that every Christian must learn the dignity of man. Christ loved and died for all men. Paul urged, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 2:5.) Romans 12:16 is a beautiful passage, and one, when put into practice, will solve the social problem. It reads, "Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits."

4. The problem of interest. We often tell people that it is their duty to worship, forgetting the fact that few if any of us will long do a thing that we have no interest in. The greater our interest, the greater our performance. But how can we stimulate interest? How can we become more interested in worship? Jesus said, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33.) Thus the Lord will not accept second place or second interest. If we put the kingdom of God first in our lives we will soon have a deep, abiding interest in worship, because worship is a part of God's kingdom.

5. The emotional problem. In our fight against the extreme emotionalism in certain religious ranks today, many of us have gone in the other extreme and barred all emotional expression from our worship. This is very unfortunate because worship, to a certain extent, is emotional expression--to express our emotions. Hence, James said, "Is any merry? let him sing psalms." (James 5:13.) But to what extent should we show our emotions? What limit should we place on them? The answer is given by Paul in I Cor. 14:40: "Let all things be done decently and in order."

6. The problem of purpose. Too many of us see no purpose in our worship. This probably explains why there are fewer on Sunday night than on Sunday morning, and fewer still on Wednesday night. But what is the purpose of worship? This might be answered under a number of headings, but the primary purpose is to make man more and more like God. Man was first made in God's image--"In the image of God created he him." (Gen. 1:27.) But he fell and, to a certain extent, at least, lost that image. He must now have it restored before he can live with God. And since man becomes like that which he worships, it is the purpose of Christian worship--as well as the whole Christian life--to restore man to the image of God. "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (II Peter 1:4.)

7. The attendance problem. How can we get people to attend, with any degree of regularity, the worship of the church? This is, indeed, a problem, but if all the other problems discussed, especially the ones on interest and purpose are solved, I think this one will take care of itself.

EDITORIAL (cont'd)

We need to dream of the time when our brethren will own and operate a jet to quickly transport missionaries, supplies, and expert assistants to any point in the world. This plane could carry campaign workers, bring the missionary and his family home for a week-end, and speed relief to any stricken place in the world. We need to dream to a world wide communications system, possibly a HAM system, so that we can know and respond to the call. We must dream of top-notch personnel who can be mobile to lay the ground work for arriving missionaries, campaign for Christ, or relieve the needy and situate the disaster stricken.

We are in the greatest business in the world. It is time for us to believe it and act accordingly. Will we sow to produce a great future or will we sow that which will weaken what strength we have?

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November Carolina Christian will present the needs of the Carolinas. We hope to mail it to most of the churches, elders and preachers in the nation.

FOR BETTER BIBLE STUDY

Ray N. Moses, Greenville, S.C.

Suppose that a subordinate army officer who is facing a court martial should offer the excuse that he had failed to do his duty because he had failed to read his orders carefully enough to know exactly what he was supposed to do. Is it likely that he would be declared "not guilty"? As soldiers of the cross, are not Christians under strong obligation to make careful study of the Book which contains their marching orders?

Now reading is a thinking process. The eye glances along the line, seeing some or all of the letters--which are symbols of sounds. The mind blends these sounds into words, and in the light of what it knows already, assigns meanings to them.

If we are reading a simply-written account of a news happening about people and places with which we are familiar we may get the full meaning rather easily. But a number of things combine to make it more difficult to get the full meaning from some parts of the Bible. It has been translated --not always in just the same way--from ancient foreign languages. It deals with people who lived long ago, in distant lands, with customs and thought-patterns different from ours. Some parts of the Bible are written in symbolic language. There are differences of opinion as to which parts are symbolic and where it is agreed that the words are symbolic there may be disagreement as to what they represent.

Then, along with some teachings of the Bible that were faithful and true, there has been much teaching that was incorrect narrow, and incomplete. Can you imagine some denominational preachers using the text, "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only"? James 2:24.

I have known a number of people who have affirmed (and who grew hotly indignant when I disagreed) that the Bible states that the time is coming when you can't tell the difference between winter and summer except by the falling of the leaves.

Now if there are parts of the Bible which are hard to understand, there is no other book for which so many helps and commentaries have been printed. While this material is man's work, their conscientious use can help us enter into a fuller understanding of the Scriptures, and can save the teacher and preacher from making mistakes which will stick like cocklebur s in his hearers' minds, perhaps after the valuable parts of the lesson have been forgotten.

Of course the beginning Bible student will have to learn to distinguish between what is God's word and what is man's work. Such simple things as dividing the Bible into chapters and verses, though most helpful in citing Scriptures to prove a point, may cause us to miss a natural connection and so fail to get the writer's exact meaning. For example, in the 12th chapter of I Corinthians, Paul is writing about such scriptural gifts as the power to speak with tongues, to heal the sick, and to prophesy. The chapter closes with the words, "Yet shew I unto you a more excellent way." If we read right on into the 13th chapter, we get the lesson that sincerely loving our fellow man is more important than is the power to work miracles!

Likewise the division of the Bible into verses may tempt the reader to stop where the writer did not intend for there to be a stopping place. The first four verses of the Book of Hebrews should be read together. They make but one sentence--one of the grandest in the English language!

Some words have changed in meaning since the King James translation of the Bible was made three hundred fifty-three years ago. In Psalm 119:147 the psalmist says, "I prevented the dawning of the morning---". When translated, this meant something like, "I traveled before daybreak". He did not match Josua's feat of making the sun stand still.

In the matter of symbolic language, perhaps the simplest form is the simile wherein it is stated that one thing is compared to another. "And he shall be like a tree planted by the river of waters". Psalm 1:3.

Probably the most used figure of speech after the simile, is the metaphor. In Luke 13:31, 32, the Pharisees advised Jesus to leave that part of the country or Herod would kill him. Jesus answered, "Go tell that fox----" Now we don't think that Jesus meant for them to talk to a four-legged animal with a bushy tail. Rather, he meant that Herod was tricky and cunning like a fox.

Metaphors, like other figures of speech, must be understood in a certain limited symbolic and spiritual way. In Rev. 5:5 Jesus is spoken of as being "the Lion of the tribe of Juda." This is a noble tribute to the courage of Jesus who "trod the winepress alone." If we made it apply to many characteristics of a lion, it would lose its dignity and might become definitely irreverent.

In Proverbs 3:16, the wise man is speaking of wisdom. He states, "Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honor." This is personification, and is not meant to mean that wisdom has a physical body like the Greek goddess Athene.

In Numbers 24:17, Balaam states, "A Sceptre shall rise out of Israel." Perhaps this would be called metonomy. Certainly very much more is meant than that Israel would produce an ornamented rod.

Hebrew poetry does not depend on "poetic feet" or upon rhyme. It does have what we might call thought rhyme, and has been compared to the beating of wings. Often there is a thought given and then it is repeated in other words, though sometimes an opposite thought is given. "For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor." Ps. 8:5.

"For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish." Psalm 1:6.

From Ezekiel 4:6 and Numbers 14:34 we learn that in his communications with man, God sometimes uses a day to represent a year. Thus the seventy weeks of Daniel 9:24 would represent four hundred ninety years till the coming of Christ.

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BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N.C.

In 1962 the PARK ROW church of ARLINGTON, TEXAS in co-operation with 19 other congregations asked that money ordinarily spent for Christmas cards be donated for the purpose of building a house for a missionary in Africa. As a result $5,000 were contributed. In 1963 the Park Row church in co-operation with 48 other congregations raised, from the same source, $9,000, which was contributed to build the first section of a three section, fifty bed hospital in Chimala, Tanganyika, Africa. The first section is completely finished; the second and third sections are to be completed this month. Park Row has committed itself to the paying for the second section, the MARY ELLEN and HARVESTER STREETS church in PAMPA, TEXAS will pay for the third section and the congregation in LAWTON, OKLAHOMA will provide beds, X-ray equipment and the like. The full hospital must be finished before it can provide care for resident patients. However, the completed section is being used as an out-patient clinic. On the day the clinic opened 250 patients sought service. Some of these had walked 70 miles. Medical service in that land is practically non existent. One child in seven dies before he is seven years of age in Chimala. Brethren Ronald Huddleston, M. D., Andrew Connally and Guy David Caskey are working in Chimala.

MAURICE HALL reports from SAIGON, SOUTH VIET NAM that opportunities are unlimited, but that limited personnel make it impossible to take advantage of but a few of them. Hall stated that children's Bible classes could be conducted at any hour of the day in any room with an average of 40 present. The U. S. Overseas Mission has granted materials for the building of a three room school but our brethren haven't been able to begin construction because of other pressing duties.

The SOUTHEAST CHURCH of WASHINGTON, D. C. plans to support its present minister, FLOYD DAVIS, in mission work in Belgium. After 2 1/2 years in CARACAS, VENEZEULA, the FRANK TRAYLOR family will return to the United States. The church in Caracas numbers 19 members. The OWEN AIKENS, missionaries to France for 11 years, have immigrated to QUEBEC, CANADA (a city of 300,000) where a work among the French speaking population has begun. The CARL P. MATHENY family, after three years in BEIRUT, LEBANON, has been in the U. S. for several months. They are at this time returning to Beirut. ROBERT E. McAULEY, recently returned missionary from Toulouse, France, has been added to the David Lipscomb College faculty. GLENN BOYD and his family are in the U. S. following 6 1/2 years of work in Karlsruke, Germany. When details of continued support have been arranged they plan to return.

NELSON M. SMITH is the first Superintendent of a new children's home in Haymarket, Virginia. This home, in the planning stage for three years, is a work of the Arlington, Virginia church. Fifteen children are now being accomodated there. POTTER ORPHAN HOME, Bowling Green, Kentucky, now in its 50th. year, is caring for over 100 children.

The HERALD of TRUTH, now on 385 radio and 90 television stations, has the opportunity of placing the program in reach of practically all the world's 600,000,000 English speaking people. An intensive drive for funds is now underway for this expanded work. GEORGE BAILEY has said, "It is quite possible that in a single broadcast of the Herald of Truth more people are addressed at one time than the apostle Paul addressed in his entire ministry..."

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

Tony Forrest, N.C. News Editor
Box 714, Taylorsville, N.C.

Richard Harp, S. C. News Editor
Box 134, Lancaster, S. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

Camden, King Street

C. C. VAUGHAN, Reporting: Between June 27 and August 20 many wonderful things happened to me as I worked with W. Olando Price in the establishing of the church at Freetown Sierra Leone, West Africa. Our work was well publicized by news papers and radio, and everyone welcomed the purpose of our presence. The Minister of Education pledged his support in the effort.

I preached three times a week with the services being held in the community center, private homes, and denominational buildings. I was invited to speak on three occasions during denominational services with over 600 present at one of the services. There is a great work developing there providing the church in America gives her support. The Lord blessed our efforts with forty-nine baptisms.

These Christians need your prayers, encouragement, a communion set, Bibles, Sunday School literature, clothing, and a meeting house. If you can help in this work please send your contribution to C. C. Vaughan, 418 King St., Camden, S. C.

The population of Sierra Leone is over two million with 100,000 in Freetown and only one congregation of the Lord's church Let us all help this cause; it is a worthy one.

Charleston, Durant Avenue

J. C. WATKINS, Reporting: Brother Presnell was one of the 250 gospel preachers receiving a special invitation to Abilene, Texas for the two-day workshop on the Herald of Truth conducted on August 26 & 27. He was selected to represent the State of South Carolina at the workshop. He received information on a plan that would make it possible to saturate the English speaking world--600,000,000 souls with the gospel. Bro. Presnell was asked to visit other congregations in South Carolina to acquaint them in detail with the work and opportunities now involved in the Herald of Truth radio and television program. Anyone desiring information about the work of the Herald of Truth may contact Bro. Presnell by telephone, 747-2313 or 553-1783, or write 801 Durant Ave., N. Charleston.

The year to date has been most successful for the Lord at Durant Ave.; 145 have responded to the invitation, 41 of which were baptized. Several of these baptisms resulted from cottage meetings with the Jule Miller filmstrips. A personal work training class is now in progress using the filmstrip series on, "How to Conduct a Cottage Meeting."

Fifty People from Durant Ave. attended the Carolina Bible Camp.

Chester

THOMAS M. DANIEL, Reporting: In July two teenagers placed membership with us, having moved here from Rock Hill. In August their father obeyed the gospel. The following week a middle-aged lady obeyed the gospel. The first Sunday in September there were 80 present for the 11:00 worship. Our fall meeting begins Oct. 11. Plans are being made now to divide the town into four parts with a team of workers assigned to each section. Our object is to see that each home in Chester receives a personal invitation to the meeting and a good tract.

Clinton

U. A. HALL, Reporting: August was a good month at Clinton with a Sunday morning attendance average of 23. The collection averaged $91.00. Our fall meeting will be the week of Thanksgiving with Virgil Richie. Plans for 1965 are now being made which includes, we hope, a "Campaign for Christ" next summer. We still need your help with our building debt. Why not include us in your budget for next year, or better still, give us 1/2 of your collection the 5th Sunday in November.

Florence

H. P. DODD, Reporting: The church here moves forward in a fine way. Our attendance, contribution, and general interest is good. We have gone through the regular vacation absence period and now we are ready for a season of work. Our vacation Bible school was a great success. We had an average of 60 present each day, and the cooperation of the church members was excellent. Richard Harp came down from Lancaster and assisted in filmstrips, teaching classes, and drilling the children in songs. We will have a gospel meeting Oct. 2-9; Gilbert Kretzer of the Lee Hi congregation of Florence, Ala. will do the preaching.

The church here has taken a forward step in having the building air-conditioned and heated with a combination gas heating and cooling system. By the help of a number of congregations in Ala., we now have a daily program over station WOLS in Florence. The program may be heard Monday through Friday at 11:45; 1230 is the dial number. When in Florence visit with us.

Sumter

RAY D. WINN, Reporting: We entered the work here in Sumter the 1st of Sept., and look forward to a long and enjoyable work with the brethren. We had four responses on our first Lord's Day; two to be restored and two to place membership. Since that time another has expressed the intention to place membership. We have great hopes for the Lord's cause in this area.

At our regular monthly business meeting it was decided to re-name this congregation. It is now to be known as the Plaza church of Christ. This gives us the advantage of the advertising of a large shopping center across the street from the building. It will also aid in preventing this congregation from being confused with another here which does not believe that the church can support orphan homes nor participate in congregational cooperation in preaching the gospel. When in our vicinity worship with us at the Plaza church of Christ.

Union

HAROLD L. SIMMONS, Reporting: On September 1st, my family and I moved to Union, S.C. to work with the Lord's people. We feel that the people here are dedicated Christians and are truly willing and have the ability to do great things for the Lord. They are well versed in the Scriptures and are zealous for His cause. Bro. Jesse Ham, Sr., Paul Rogers, Carl Henderson, Walt Akers, and Bill Morgan are the capable elders. Under their oversight Clifford Davis has just concluded a six weeks meeting with the colored people of Union. Eleven souls were baptized in this effort, and Larue Stocker of Miami, Florida has agreed to come and work with them. Support is needed for this man. If you know of some congregation that would be interested in helping in this work please contact them. Milton Parker, who formerly worked with the congregation here, has moved to Baker, Florida to work with the church there.

Greenville, Augusta Road

CARL LANCASTER, Reporting: An excellent gospel meeting was concluded here on September 13. David Pharr of Rock Hill, S. C. did a splendid job of preaching the truth. More visitors attended this meeting than most any we have had. Two obeyed the gospel during the meeting.

We are presently in a drive to increase attendance for our Sunday morning Bible classes with a goal of 150. Plans are being made to conduct a mission meeting in the near-by town of Piedmont for Oct. 25-Nov. 1.

Greenville, Northeast

BURL CURTIS, Reporting: The "Campaign for Christ" proved to be an effective way to reach the lost here. Twelve responded to the invitation; five were baptisms. There has been one restoration since then.

This campaign was conducted by the Belmont Avenue church of Christ in Nashville, Tennessee working with the Northeast church. Their preacher, David Martin, and song leader, James Wiseman, did outstanding work both at night and during the day. Some 9,000 personal invitations were given and about 15 home Bible studies conducted. We estimated that 75 adult nonmembers attended during the week.

In addition to the campaign August 23-30 the month began by Northeast entering the new building the first Sunday. J. L. Hunter, one of the elders of the Madison, Tennessee church, was guest speaker. August 6 and 7, Ira North was with us for a training series. These sessions were well attended and enthusiastically received. VBS was held August 10-14 with a record attendance of 106.

New records were set in August in most everything: Bible study, 120; Sunday morning, 152; Sunday night, 128; Wednesday evening, 118; Contribution, $183.73.

We are looking forward to having the lectures here next April.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

High Point

JAMES P. EDWARDS, Reporting: We are planning a gospel meeting to be conducted by Bill Smith of Rockingham, N. C. October 5-11.

We are also planning for Richard Walker of Aiken, S. C. to teach a singing school during this meeting. Further plans are pending until we hear from brother Walker. Everyone is cordially invited to this meeting. The meeting house is located at 907 E. Lexington Avenue near the College Village Shopping Center.

A building program has been in the planning stage for some time. The Land Committee has located property on Hwy. 68, and the men of the church will be investigating this in the near future.

Lexington

WALTER NEAL, Reporting: We are beginning our third year with the church here. Sept. 5, 1962 there were 11 members; now there are 43. The indebtedness was $11,301.94; now it is $9,195.83. The building fund was $1,399.54; now it is $3,199.67. The checking fund was down to zero; now it is $728.85.

Twelve have been baptized, three restored, and several have confessed sins.

This is a fine place to live and a hard place to work. We are also happy to announce that we have a radio program. A young couple recently learned of the church by hearing about it on the radio.

Kinston

NOYLES SEWELL, Reporting: We began September with 116 present and contribution of $191.00. One was baptized last Sunday, one came from the Christian Church, and three adults were identified with this congregation.

We have been blessed with 17 additions thus far this year, 11 of which were baptisms. Our fall meeting begins November 15 with Marvin Bryant preaching.

Gastonia

PAUL GRAY, Reporting: September 12 we began a weekly radio program known as "According to the Scriptures." We are anxious to know how far the program can be heard and how many are listening; thus we urge everyone to let us know if it is being received. The program is heard on WGNC at 1450 on the AM dial and 102 on the FM band. We are also running a weekly ad in Saturday's paper advertising the church services and the radio program. The Herald of Truth is also carried on this station each Sunday evening at 9:30.

Attendance has been some better in recent weeks which we hope is a good sign. Each of our Bible classes now has two teachers; some imporvements are being made to the meeting house and other encouraging signs are manifesting themselves. A meeting is being arranged for November but the exact date has not been set as yet.

Winston-Salem, South Side

W. E. SKIPPER, Reporting: We moved to Winston-Salem August 20, 1964. Since that time five have placed membership, five have been restored, and one has been baptized.

At the present two men are being considered to serve as elders with those already serving. Also, the educational department has been completely revised, as the students are preparing to move into new classrooms that are near completion. This will make a total of 14 classes being conducted each Lord's Day morning. We are going to begin a systematic study of the "Living Word" series in the near future.

I anticipate a great future for the church here. When in Winston worship with us.

Henderson

JOHN HOLLIS, Reporting: I did the preaching in our meeting August 9-16. The local members worked hard for the success of this meeting. We had an average attendance of 32. There were 37 adult non-members who attended these services. The only congregations supporting us in this meeting were Raleigh and Durham. Our radio program over WIZS at 8:30 each Sunday morning has a good listening audience. We are now offering a correspondence course. We are desperately in need of a building. We are asking for two hundred congregations and/or individuals to contribute $150.00 to this work so that we can erect our building. Who will help us in our need?

Greensboro

PAUL SIKES, Reporting: Our Vacation Bible School was conducted June 8-12. The average attendance was 115. Twenty seven boys and girls were responsible for 221 visits during the week.

Brother Don Kittrell of Lafayette, Tenn. will preach during our meeting, October 19-25 with services each evening at 7:30.

Valdese

MADELINE BROWN, Reporting: From a beginning of three families, the church in Valdese has grown to 21 families in just a few years. Our Sunday morning attendance is around 60, Sunday night about 40 with Wednesday night about 35. The contribution is $200.00 more often than not. The church is now contributing $30 per month to Mt. Dora Christian Home in Mt. Dora, Florida. Just recently $50 was sent to M. F. Norwood to help in the meeting at Spruce Pine, N. C. where he hopes to start a congregation.

We have a meeting scheduled for October 25-30 with David Pharr of Rock Hill, S. C. All are cordially invited to hear brother Pharr.

Charlotte

JOHNNY SEWELL, Reporting: Two fine preachers, known personally to me, are available for mission meetings in the Carolinas. They have their support to preach in meetings without cost to the local church desiring their services. Address them directly as follows: Leonard Dean, c/o Little Rock church of Christ, Rt. 2, Lyles, Tenn. and Gordon Ricketts, c/o New York Ave. church of Christ, P. O. Box 3052, Oak Ridge, Tenn. Also, Ira Rice, missionary to Singapore for several years, is available during January for visits among Carolina churches in the interest of mission work in SE Asia. If you wish to have him, please write me at P. O. Box 26212, Derita Branch, Charlotte, N. C.

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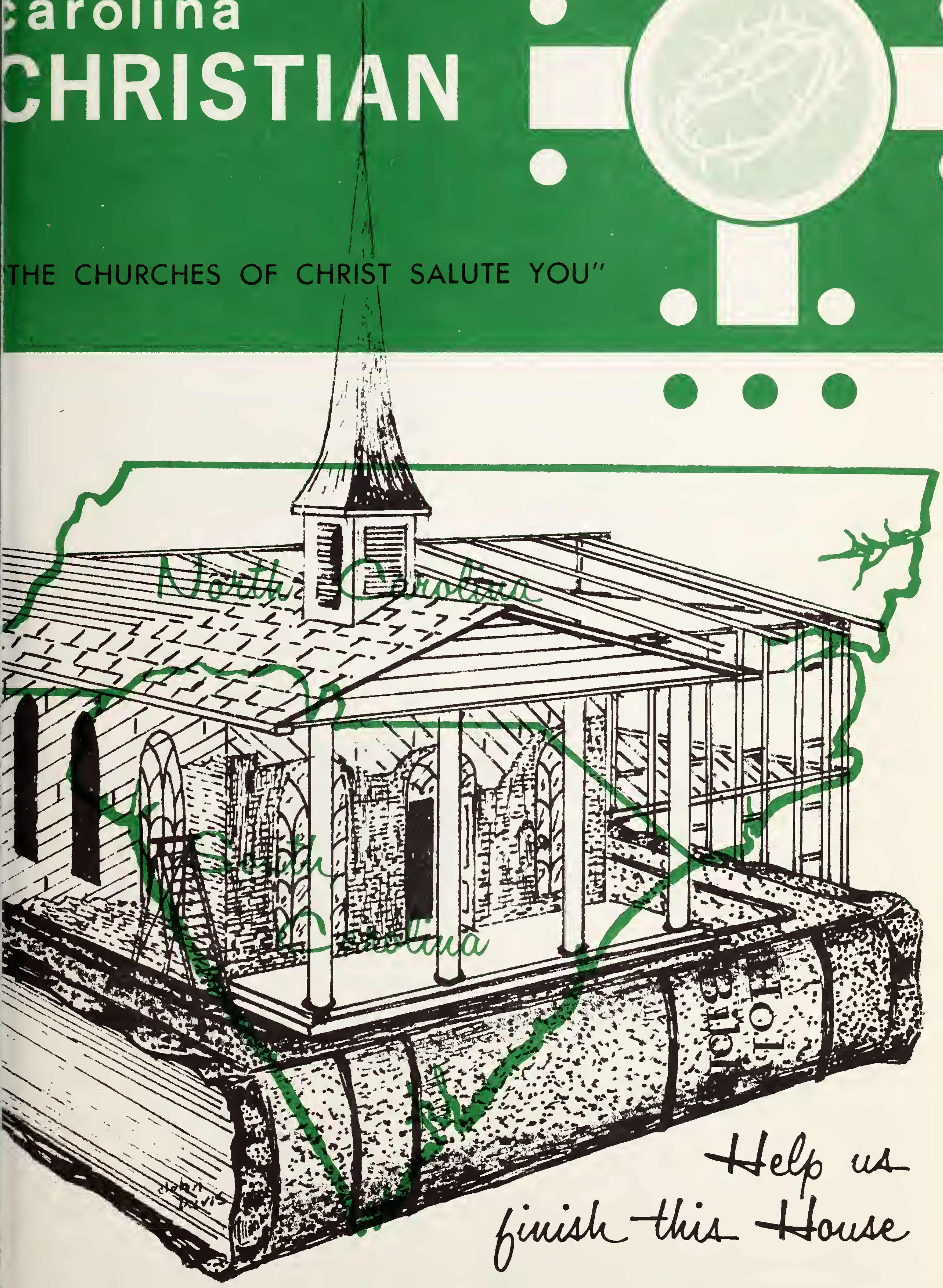
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NOVEMBER, 1964 VOLUME 6 NO. 11

EDITORIAL - MISSION "FACT SHEET"

Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C.

Please use this copy of the Carolina Christian as a fact sheet of the work in both North and South Carolina. For additional information please order the Carolina Directory of churches of Christ. (See ad on page 11.)

Every section of the Carolinas was encouraged to submit for publication a statement of their needs. We are sorry that some did not respond.

However, we should not forget that approximately 40% of the counties in N. C. have no church of Christ and about 50% in S. C. A great work can be done in building up the small congregations now meeting here. Of the 100 congregations of N. C. only about 30 are self-supporting and of the 55 in S. C. only about 15.

Henderson, N. C.

John Hollis

The church in Henderson had its beginning in November, 1962. At the start there were eight members. We now meet in the Service Club Center building on Raleigh Road. During the past two years we have grown to fifteen members, two of these by baptism. At the beginning of this year it was decided that a full-time minister was needed for the work. The elders of the church in Raleigh agreed to furnish the salary for a preacher to work with the church in Henderson. John Hollis agreed to come work with us, and moved here the first of June.

Other outside support comes from the church in Burlington, N.C. and Pocahontas, Ark., totaling $30 per month. The local contributions average around $55. Recently we secured support of $50 per month from the Comer Fund in Nashville, Tenn. to be applied to brother Hollis' salary, which will relieve the church in Raleigh this amount. With the money we have at our disposal, we are distributing teaching materials from house to house, using a Correspondence Course, and conducting a fifteen minute radio program each Sunday. Average attendance is 25 to 30 each Lord's day.

One year ago, we purchased a lot in a good location. We obtained this lot for $3,500, paid $1,000 down, and at the present owe only $500. We plan to pay the balance before the first of the year. At the present we are trying to raise money to build a building. We are asking for two hundred congregations and/or individuals to give $150.00 each to this work. We plan to do the major part of the construction ourselves. We need this building very badly. The building in which we meet is very inadequate for our needs. It is dirty; it has no class rooms; it is hard to heat in cold weather; it is used for dances and parties (sometimes drinking) that hinder the influence of the church in the community because we meet in the same building where these things are carried on. On one occasion we had to wait for such a party

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CHRISTIAN

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C. N. Womack, Adv. Mgr.
Richard Harp, S. C. News Editor
Carl Lancaster, Asst. Ed.
Tony Forrest, N. C. News Edito

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WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

Bob Rigdon, P. O. Box 101 Sylva, N. C.

In the area west of Waynesville and Brevard, N.C. the church is located in Waynesville, Sylva, Cherokee, Franklin, Bryson City, Andrews and Hayesville, N.C.

The church in Bryson City is in the greatest need at this time. It is my prayers that financial assistance in the form of a strong church underwriting a long-term loan of a modest amount will be forthcoming. It is also my prayer that additional support for Bro. Carlton Elkins will be raised.

Bro. Carlton Elkins and his family have labored over three years in this city. He gave up a very successful radio career to preach the Gospel of Christ. His sacrifice cost him partial ownership in a radio station.

The church meets in a converted two story dwelling which also serves as living quarters for the preacher and his family.

The work is suffering because they do not have a modest church building.

Full-time work began in Bryson City in 1960 with eight members. I, by God's help, began the church there by driving over twice a week. Today there are fourteen members.

The present indebtedness on the property is $5,755.00. The contributions average approximately $100.00 per month. It takes all of this to pay the building loan.

The church there needs some strong church to borrow about $16,000 for them so that they might pay off the present indebtedness and build a modest building for $10,000.00. IS THIS ASKING TOO MUCH? Most churches would not think of building a small building such as this yet it could mean the difference between success and failure for this work. The church in Bryson could repay it at $100.00 per month. THIS ISN'T ASKING FOR A GIFT. But, how much it will mean to them!

I personally will do all within my power to assist the church in Bryson.

Bro. Elkins is supported by the Green Hills church in Nashville and the 4th Ave. church in Franklin, Tennessee.

Other needs of the church are financial help on the utilities and an increase for Bro. Elkins and his family.

Concerning the other churches in the area they all have comfortable buildings with the exception of Franklin and they are planning to build soon with the help of the St. Elmo church in Chattanooga, Tenn.

For further information write me or Carlton Elkins, Box 329, Bryson City, N. C.

Henderson (cont'd)

to break up before we could use the building. This building costs us $5.00 per Sunday. We have difficulty in being able to secure this building long enough to conduct a meeting.

Henderson is a city of 18,000 population. The nearest congregation is in South Hill, Va., 34 miles to the north. Henderson is located on U.S. Highway number one, one of the main arteries of travel north to south on the East Coast. The city is also located near Kerr Lake, one of the great recreation areas of N.C. We are confident, that with adequate support, the church will enjoy a good growth here in Henderson.

Raleigh, N. C.

Henry Renolds

The church in Raleigh has been supporting the work in Henderson $100 per week. The preacher in Henderson is John Hollis who is a fine, young man about 30 years old. Since Bro. Hollis arrived in Henderson in June of this year from Greenfield, Indiana, the church has shown a great deal of promise. They are purchasing a lot and hope to begin a building in the near future. If this is accomplished, they must

(see page 9)

THE WILKSBOROES

Claude W. Pharr, Lenoir, N. C.

In 1950 a congregation of the Lord's people began meeting in Wilkesboro, N. C. There are now 30 members in this congregation. During the 14 years of its existence, there have been only two full-time preachers to work with them. They stayed only one year each. The last one was in 1957. Faithful Christians from other congregations, particularly Kannapolis and Winston-Salem, have assisted with the preaching through the years. However, for the last few years nearly all the preaching has been done by the local members. Each of the seven men in the congregation takes his turn preaching.

At first the congregation met in the American Legion Building. Later they assembled in an old Presbyterian church building; then in an old store building. They now worship in a block-basement building. This building is in an undesirable location, and, therefore, it is an hindrance to the work. The church has purchased a lot on the edge of a new housing development, and work has begun on a $20,000 building. When completed the auditorium will seat 150 to 200 persons. This new building should be a great asset to the work in Wilkesboro.

The congregation in Wilkesboro not only serves the town of Wilkesboro (population 3,000), but also its adjoining neighbor, North Wilkesboro, (population 8,000). Furthermore, it is the only congregation in Wilkes County (population 45,000). Wilkes is a progressive, prosperous, county. It is the center of broiler-poultry in North Carolina. It also has textile mills, furniture factories, and other industry. The Kerr-Scott Reservoir was completed about two years ago giving the county two resort areas to draw tourists. A state and county supported community college which will serve three counties is soon to be built in Wilkes. Its $1,000,000 plant will provide for 600 students offering vocational and technical training.

The opportunities for the Lord's work in the Wilkesboros are good. The Christians there are long-time residents and respected members of the community. Within the congregation there is a doctor, two lawyers, and other with responsible jobs. These men have already demonstrated their ability, not only in their secular employment, but also in the Lord's work in that they lead singing, teach Bible classes, and preach.

The greatest need in Wilkesboro now is for an experienced, full-time minister. Some years ago the church had a regular radio program each Sunday. There were some regular listeners, But, the good that might have been accomplished was not for there was no one to follow up the program with personal evangelism. In various gospel meetings over the years interest has been shown and non-members have attended, but again there was no one to nurture that interest through personal contacts and teaching. At present, the resources of this congregation are all tied up in their building program so that the need for a full-time evangelist cannot be met.

For the past year the church in Wilkesboro has sponsored a radio program in Elkin, N. C. The gospel having been preached there for a year, Elkin is now a good field for beginning a congregation.

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NORTHWESTERN, N. C.

M. F. Norwood, Marion, N. C.

To outline the needs in this area of North Carolina is indeed an assignment, but it's one that merits deep concern, and registers something very dear to our hearts. The prescribed area of 12 counties has a population of some 500,000 people, with approximately 460 members of the Lord's church, less than one New Testament Christian per 1,000 people.

AVERY COUNTY, (population 13,352), Newland is the county seat with no congregation, but there is a rural congregation at Taylor's Chapel, some 9 miles from there. They possibly have 20 members, own their building, but do not have a regular preaching schedule. Robert Wilson of Maryville, Tenn. assisted them in June, 1964 in a meeting and Vacation Bible School.

BUNCOMBE COUNTY, (population 124, 000) county seat, Asheville. There are 5 congregations meeting in Buncombe County three of them in Asheville.

BURKE COUNTY, (population 45,518), county seat, Morgantown. One congregation meets in Valdese, established 1956; They have 38 members. Jerry Senn is their full time minister. The church in Valdese owns their meeting house and ministers home, and have been self supporting more than one year. They conduct a weekly radio program in Morgantown and in Valdese. They are actively engaged in cottage meeting work.

CALDWELL, (population 43,352) county seat, Lenoir, one congregation which began 1951, now has 28 members, they own their building. Claud Pharr is their full time preacher, supported by outside aid. Their immediate need includes additional meeting space for worship and classes.

CLEVELAND, (population 64,357) county seat, Shelby, one congregation which began in 1960. They now have 15 members Tom Bolick is the local evangelist. They have purchased a dwelling in which to meet, they conduct a daily radio program. They receive outside support.

HENDERSON, (population 31,000) Hendersonville is the county seat and has one congregation which began in 1952. They have about 65 members with James A. Davis serving as full time minister.

MADISON, (population 20,522) No congregation is meeting in the county. The church in Red Oak in Buncombe County conducts a weekly radio program in the county seat, Marshall.

MCDOWELL COUNTY, (population 26, 000), has two congregations. Marion is the county seat. Marion began meeting in 1943 and now has 42 members. M. F. Norwood is the minister, they are buying the church building and preacher's home with an indebtedness of $6,000. They conduct weekly radio programs in Marion and Spruce Pine. In 1964 the Fogarty-Bain Tent Evangelistic campaign was conducted in Marion through the combined efforts of the neighboring congregations, with 28 responses in the meeting. Outside support is received by the church in Marion. Every day brings opportunities for more cottage meetings in the area. The other congregation, Dysartsville, began meeting in 1948, has 20 members, and owns their church building. They cooperate with the church in Marion in conducting the local radio program. The past three years they have combined forces with Marion for a Vacation Bible School. Of the 28 responses in the Fogarty-Bain meeting, 12 of them were from the Dysartsville congregation. Vernon Crawley is their regular preacher; he supports himself by working in a local textile mill.

MITCHELL COUNTY, (population 15,143) No known church is meeting in this county. Bakersville is the county seat. A weekly radio program is conducted in Spruce Pine by the church in Marion each Saturday morning, which has a three-county coverage: Mitchell, Avery, and Yancey. A two-week's tent meeting was conducted in

Spruce Pine and Bakersville this past summer by the writer. This is the second meeting held in Spruce Pine. During the first week of the meeting this year, we attempted to cover the entire town with advertising and tracts. We have also had opportunity to show Jule Miller film strips in two homes in this community.

POLK COUNTY, (population 11,626). Tryon is the county seat and has one congregation which began meeting 1951. They have 22 members. Kenneth Willis is the full time minister.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY, (46,356) has one congregation meeting in Spindale, which was established in 1961. They have 15 members: Waymon Love is their full time minister. Old Hickory, Nashville, Tenn. assists them in their Vacation Bible School each summer, which has proved to be a very satisfactory and successful arrangement.

YANCEY COUNTY (Population 16,300) county seat, Burnsville. No congregation is known to be meeting in this county. A two week tent meeting was conducted in Burnsville in July 1964 by the writer. (NOTE: of the four meetings conducted in this Tri-County area, I believe more likely prospects were discovered in Burnsville. There were at least 75 different people who attended this meeting who have never attended a service of the New Testament church.)

In this area there are many good sized towns that need the church established in them. Just to name a few: Black Mountain, Swannanoa, Old Fort, Newland, Bakersville, Burnsville, Spruce Pine, and Morganton. These are sizeable towns with reasonable facilities. As far as I can determine, very little has been done toward establishing the church in these towns. The four tent meetings which the writer conducted this past summer were just a step, mostly experimental. We learned that the climate is not favorable at any time for tent meetings in the mountainous area. But many contacts have been made and I hope they may be developed. With the radio program in Spruce Pine and the tent meetings, the area has had an introduction to the New Testament church. But I believe personal campaigns need to be pursued in this area, and a concentrated effort made in each of these cities.

The people of this section are slow and backward in nature, but are religious minded. We believe fully if Christian families could move to these towns and live and work among the people it would not be long untill the cause could be established. I trust that when you review this information, you will picture the vast region on the map. If you should be interested in any way, I would be most happy to send any available literature or brochures on any particular part that might attract your attention.

All of the forces who are already on the field here have more than they can do with their work in their locale, and for the most part need additional help. We hope that elders from nearby states will visit the area and review the possibilities of concentrating their mission efforts in one area, remaining with it until the church is self-supporting. Many of us have been greatly blessed by outside hlep in coming thus far, and realize that without the financial help and prayers of others we could have done little. The work has been hindered by workers who become discouraged and leave the field before they become known to the community. This is a grea need--to be well established in the area so that contacts may be made. They just don' develop overnight in this region and neither do the people accept it the first time they hear it. It has been a long hard fight, and we still have a long hard fight ahead--we cannot give up now!

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SOUTH EAST, N. C.

Bill G. Smith, Rockingham, N. C.

This article covers 12 counties in the state of North Carolina. Seven of these do not have a congregation of God's people worshiping in them. They are listed below with the population for 1960.

COUNTY	COUNTY SEAT	POPULATION
Robeson	Lumberton	89,102
Sampson	Clinton	48,013
Duplin	Kenansville	40,270
Bladen	Elizabethtown	28,881
Scotland	Laurinburg	25,183
Brunswich	Southport	20,278
Pender	Burgaw	18,508

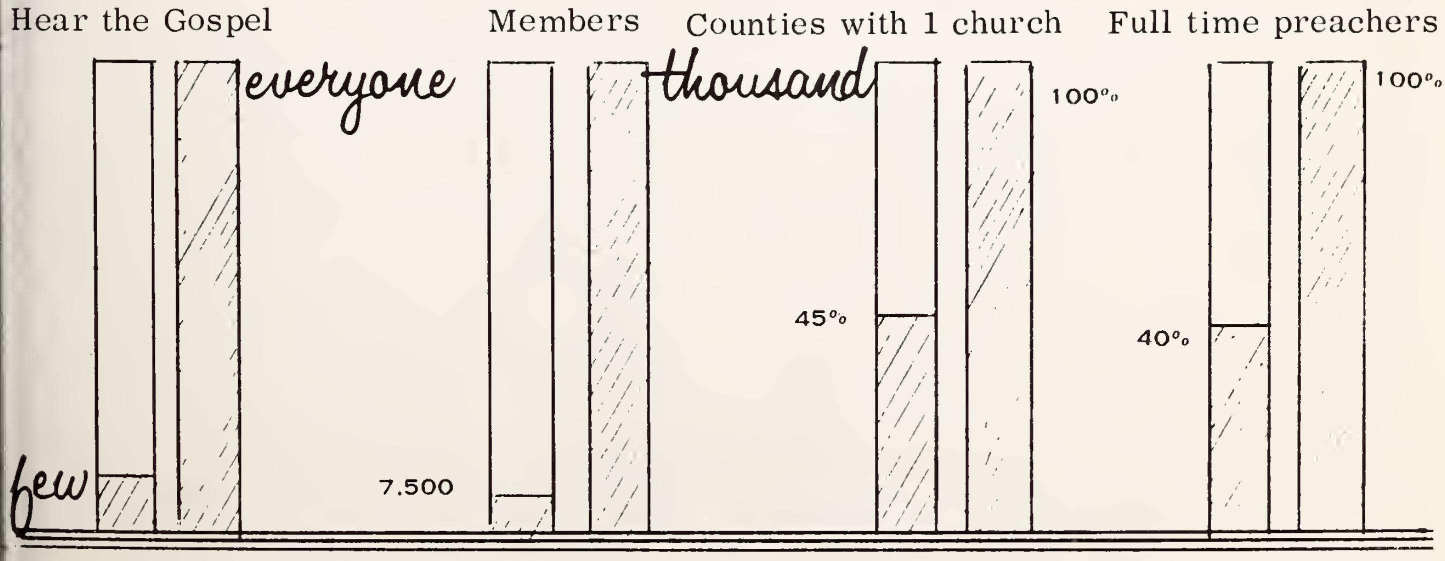
The other five counties have eight congregations.

COUNTY	CITY	MEMBERS	MINISTER	SELF SUPPORTING
Columbus	Whiteville	40	Virgil Hale	No
Columbus	Clarendon	4	None	No
Cumberland	Fayetteville	60	Richard Blackwell	Yes
Cumberland	" (Cape Fear)	57	B. G. Langston	No
Cumberland	Spring Lake (col)	12	Joseph Colquitt	No
Hoke	Aberdeen	9	Looking	No
New Hanover	Wilmington	30	Looking	No
Richmond	Rockingham	89	Bill G. Smith	Yes

The church in Aberdeen has a building paid for and support to rent a house for a preacher. They need a preacher and his salary. They have around 18-23 in attendance on Sunday morning. Nine members make up the congregation, eight of which are wage earners. Contact Fleet Cooper, Box 1176, Aberdeen, N. C.

Robeson County is the largest County in the State without a congregation. There are almost 90,000 souls and no one to teach the Gospel of Christ to them. Contact Dr. James L. Latham, Route 1, Lumberton, N. C. Bro. Latham moved here from Denton, Texas in June of this year. He is head of the Psychology department at Pembroke College. He has served as a deacon and elder in the Lord's church. He is anxious to start a congregation in Lumberton. He is in a position to help you find employment in the college, city schools, or industry. The greatest need here is for strong Christians to move and make their homes in this area.

GOALS FOR THE CAROLINAS



North Carolina Coastal Plains

Noyles E. Sewell, Kinston, N. C.

In the Costal Plains area from Albermarle Sound south to Jacksonville and inland to Wayne County, there are eight congregations of the Lord's church. Only two of these, Pike Road near Pantego, and Newport, have really outgrown the "mission point" stage and are fully self-supporting. Goldsboro, Kinston, Greenville, and Morehead City, although meeting in new buildings and enjoying steady growth, still receive outside support. Jacksonville and New Bern have debt-free buildings but the buildings are inadequate and not assets to future growth. Within this area there are six counties without a congregation, however they are small, sparsely settled counties, and wholly within 20 miles of some existing congregation, except Dare County and parts of Tyrrell and Hyde.

The entire area under consideration is "Mission Need," however, we wish to mention four target areas for the benefit of preachers interested in coming and churches interested in sending. The following are challenging missionary opportunities needing preachers who are partially or entirely supported by mission-minded churches outside this area.

NEW BERN, an historic city founded in 1735, served as early capitol of North Carolina. Present population about 25,000. Situated at the junction of the Neuse and Trent Rivers where they empty into Pamlico Sound, New Bern is surrounded by water and fishing and Marine building and repair are important industries. Cherry Point Marine Air Base is located only 18 miles south of New Bern and a large number of military families reside in this city. The Lord's people have been meeting in New Bern since about 1955, beginning with a nucleus that formerly worshipped with the church at Newport. About 1959 a concrete building was erected which is now debt-free. Present attendance is around 50 to 60 on Sunday mornings. This group has had only two full time preachers and have been without a preacher for much of their history. During 1963 an Air Force officer filled the pulpit and for many months now, Dr. Austin Johnson of the Kinston church has been preaching there on alternating Sundays. The brethren in New Bern cannot fully support a preacher but urgently need a mature and experienced gospel preacher who comes with much of his support. The willingness of this church to do what they can for the Lord is evidenced by the fact that they buy time on the New Bern television station and show the Herald of Truth series each Sunday. New Bern offers a great challenge to any gospel preacher, and a great opportunity to any church, interested in mission work in the Carolinas. Correspondence may be addressed to E. A. Johnson, Bayboro, N. C.

WASHINGTON, a city of 15,000 on Pamlico River, with no congregation of the New Testament church. Nearest is Greenville, 26 miles away. This is the largest city east of Raleigh without a church of Christ that is scriptural in faith and practice. There are numerous "Churches of Christ" which use the musical instrument in the Washington area and on north to Virginia whose presence would complicate the task of establishing true churches. Washington offers a real challenge and represents an urgent missionary need.

MANTEO, a small town of about 1,000 and yet the largest within a radius of over 50 miles, which includes Hyde, Tyrrell, and Dare Counties, most of Camden County and all of the Outer Banks. This area is sparsely populated but during the Summer months tens of thousands of vacationers converge on the Outer Banks and surrounding costal areas. There are no New Testament churches in all of this area and the nearest to Manteo is 70 miles away in Elizabeth City. It would seem that Manteo would be the logical headquarters from which to evangelize this section. About five years ago a small group broke away from the instrumental "Church of Christ" in Manteo and began meeting in the court house. George McWhorter, an experienced gospel preacher from Norfolk, drove down to Manteo each Sunday afternoon to preach for them, but after a few months they were persuaded by the instrumental group to return to their digressive fold. Had we been able at that time to have put a preacher in Manteo full-time, the outcome would doubtless have been different. This area of the Lost Colony, Mattamuskeet Lake, Kill Devil Hills, Ft. Raleigh, and Cape Hatteras, with its historical and recreational attractions present a real missionary need and offers a unique missionary challenge.

(Since completing the above article which covers, among other spots, New Bern and Washington; a United Press International news item datelined Washington, N. C. October 16 contains interesting information. Construction will begin very soon on a $45,000,000 Texas Gulf Sulphur Plant at Aurora, N. C. between Washington and New Bern. 200 construction workers are expected to be moving into the area around January 1, 1965 with 500 on hand by March 1st and 1000 on hand by June 1st. It is logical to assume that among these workers there will be members of the church, thus brightening the possibilities resulting from mission work in either Washington or New Bern, and greatly increasing the need for a preacher in both cities.)

Raleigh (cont'd)

have help from other congregations.

The church in Raleigh is also supporting the colored work in Raleigh; we are paying the salary of Andrew Cowan who is their preacher. With the help of some others, we have built them a nice meeting house which cost, along with the land, about $30,000. We placed a $10,000 mortgage on this building and the colored members are paying this themselves.

We are also subscribing to the Carolina Christian for all members at Raleigh (white and colored), also, for members at Henderson, Aberdeen and Whiteville, N.C. We believe this publication should be given the support of every able congregation in the state. The best way we can do this is by having it sent to the homes of each family each month.

NORTH CENTRAL, N. C.

Paul E. Sikes, Greensboro, N. C.

This area includes about one million souls. There are five churches of Christ in our own Guilford County. Guilford County has a population of 246,520. Membership in the Lord's church is approximately 400.

I want to point out the needs of two congregations here in Greensboro.

(1) Florida Street (909 W. Florida St.) Box 1742. This is the oldest church in the county. This congregation could well use the services of a full-time preacher who could arrange most of his support. Membership is 30. This city of 130,000 needs many congregations and the church at Florida St. is in a good location. They do not have a preacher's home. Two new class rooms have been added this year.

(2) Ireland St. (colored) Send any correspondence to: Mr. P. K. Alexander, 1421 Avalon Rd., Greensboro, N.C.

This congregation needs financial aid. They will soon loose their present building due to a redevelopment program in this city. They are now purchasing a new lot (215 x 160 ft.) at Cottage Grove Ave.; $1,500 has been paid on the lot. It will cost $4,200.

The Wendover Ave. church in Greensboro sends $50 per month to this work.

Ireland St. is fortunate to have a full-time preacher, P. K. Alexander. Their average weekly contribution is $50. They have 38 members.

Plans for their proposed building call for $12,000.

COMPARE THESE FIGURES

North Carolina population-4,556,155
South Carolina population -2,382,594
Members of the church - -7,626

WESTERN SOUTH CAROLINA

Carl E. Lancaster, Greenville, S. C.

The oldest congregation in South Carolina was established in Union in 1919 by the late Thomas H. Burton. In the 45 years since the beginning of the first congregation much has been accomplished in South Carolina. The work is now gaining momentum but there is much that yet needs to be done. The purpose of this article is to call attention to some of the more prominent needs in the western section of South Carolina.

At present the greatest need is the strengthening and developing of a number of small, struggling congregations that are presently unable to carry on an active program of work and can scarcely do more than survive. If these small groups can be developed into strong, active congregations perhaps this will do more to advance the cause of Christ in this area than anything else that can be done.

What is needed to accomplish this goal? In most cases money is needed. Perhaps in many cases though, there is a need that is even greater than the need for money. It is the need for the suggestions, advice, and moral support of men of ability, vision, and experience who are in positions of leadership in congregations elsewhere. These leaders could find out what the problems are, inquire about future plans, and offer the advantage of suggestions derived from years of experience and vision.

Among the many struggling congregations in need of help is the Fairview congregation in Spartanburg. Spartanburg, a city of 45,000, has two congregations. The Central church is rather active and is self supporting. Attendance there exceeds 100. Fairview has 25 members and contribution averages $200 a month. Glenn Moreland who is highly respected in this area, supports himself in secular work and drives over from Greenville to preach for them. They meet in the basement section of their building. The blocks have been laid for their auditorium but they have not been able to finish the building due to lack of funds. It will take around $6,000 to complete the building with brick veneer. This is their most pressing need.

Greenwood County has a population of 45,000 and the City of Greenwood a population of more than 16,000. The only congregation in the entire county is the city of Greenwood. It began in 1952. Membership numbers around 40 and only six of these are men with regular employment. Contribution averages $40 a week. They meet in a small basement building that will seat around 60. Preaching is done by one of the members. The brethren there feel that their greatest need is the necessary support and a full time preacher. In the future they hope to build a more suitable building. It has been reported to this writer from more than one source that the views of some now active in the Greenwood church are questionable. Before assistance is given this should be cleared up. If any in error are teachable they should be taught. If it is impossible to correct the problem by teaching there is still a responsibility to the 45,000 souls in that county and to the faithful brethren who have struggled and sacrificed for years in an effort to build a strong, loyal church there. If error cannot be removed from the present congregation, a faithful one should be planted there.

The church began in Anderson in 1940. It has a building in a good location that seats 180 and has four class rooms. Membership is 35 and contribution averages $60 a week. Preaching is done by local members and by brethren from Clemson College. They feel that their greatest need is for a full time preacher. This is the only congregation in the county and Anderson is the fifth largest city in the state (population 41,000). It is vital that the Anderson church be supported in a very attractive program of work if the 100,000 souls of that county are to hear the gospel of Christ.

The church in Easley has some of the most industrious plans of any small congregation in this area. Attendance there averages 27. Their first goal is to obtain a full time preacher. They now meet in the American Legion building but are searching for a lot in a good location with plans to build. They are also laying plans for a campaign for Christ in July, 1965 with the help of volunteers from east Tennessee. After a recent planning session their contribution jumped from $22 per week to $56! Easley has a population of 8,000 and is in a county of 46,000 souls and there is not another congregation in the entire county. The major need of this congregation is financial help to support a full time preacher, for an adequate building and an active program of work.

One of the newest congregations in this section is Clinton. It began in January, 1964. It is the only congregation in Laurens County (population 45,000). Clinton has a population of around 10,000 and Laurens (eight miles distant) has another 10,000. U.A. Hall is their full time preacher, supported through the efforts of the church at Union, S. C. Attendance averages 18 and contribution $74.25 a week. The church meets in a converted residence that has four rooms plus an auditorium that will seat 40 to 50. They need additional funds for radio work and the most pressing need is for funds to pay off a loan of approximately $2,500 that was borrowed for a down payment on the house. They financed an additional $3,500 on the house but can handle the payments on this if they can get the loan for the down payment paid off.

Perhaps one of the greatest and most neglected opportunities in this area is the work among the colored. Nicholtown in Greenville is a very active congregation with attendance of around 100. A small group of 20 to 25 meets in a funeral home in Spartanburg. They have a part time preacher and need funds for a building and to support a full time preacher. Around 20 meet in Seneca. Their building is incomplete and is without rest rooms or adequate heat. Nicholtown in Greenville sends one of their members to do the preaching for them. The white congregation in Union supported a colored preacher (Clifford Davis) in a four week tent meeting among the colored this summer. Eleven were baptized. They now meet in the community building and the Sunday and mid-week services are conducted by the white brethren. Larue Stocker of Miami, Florida has agreed to move to work with them. They are seeking $300 per month for support. Sixty are meeting in Abbeyville and contribution is around $55 per week. Their preacher, Brother I. V. White, preaches both in Abbeyville and Elberton, Georgia. He drives back and forth and conducts services both places on Sundays and in mid-week. Their inadequate building needs major repairs. They have purchased a lot and need a preacher's home as well as additional support for the preacher. This is the situation of the church among the colored in the western section of South Carolina. There is a great field awaiting to be harvested among them.

As the reader thoughtfully considers the many needs enumerated in this issue of Carolina Christian, it is hoped that he will catch a vision of a man of Carolina with the centuries old plea, "Come over...and help us." May preachers be moved to bear the message of salvation to the thousands here that have not yet heard. May elders be moved to include these needs in the budget of the congregation and may they be moved to visit the Carolinas and offer the advantage of suggestions and helpful advice derived from years of experience and vision. May Christian businessmen and Christian teachers be moved to come to the Carolinas to live and work because of what it will mean to the cause of Christ in this area.

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WESTERN PIEDMONT, N. C.

Johnny C. Sewell, Charlotte, N. C.

Situated between the Appalachian Mountains on the west and the Atlantic coastal plain on the east is the heavily populated, highly industrialized central section of North Carolina known as the Piedmont. This area, as the word "piedmont" indicates, lies at the foot of the mountains. Textiles and furniture manufacturing are prominant with transportation and sales being of great importance. Whereas industry has come to the forefront, agriculture is still of great importance to the people. Only one state in the union, Texas, has more farms than North Carolina. Here is an area in which the four seasons are distinct, the temperature mild (average 60 degrees) and living is pleasant.

In this article we are not dealing with the North Carolina Piedmont in its entirety, but rather the western portion only including a twelve county area; viz., Stokes, Forsyth, Davie, Davidson, Iredell, Rowan, Cabarrus, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Stanley, Union and Anson.

North Carolina is the land of James O'Kelly, the pioneer gospel preacher, who urged the all sufficiency of the Scriptures and declared simply, "We will be downright Christians." A simple stone monument marks his grave in Chatham County, N. C. Digression took a terrific toll as congregations which had been established during the earlier days of the Restoration Movement went with the Missionary Society and instrumental music factions and then on in later years to other departures from the Scriptural standard. Today, there remain several groups calling themselves churches of Christ which differ from us in few respects except in their use of the mechanical instrument of music in worship. These digressions left the number of loyal congregations seeking to adhere to the old paths to a bare minimum leaving a field in great need. The oldest remaining congregation is the Jericho church in Mocksville, N. C. Seeing the great apostasy and recognizing the opportunities that exist here to spread the gospel, brethren from across the country joined hands with the Christians here and together have labored to restore New Testament Christianity in its purity to this area which was among the first to hear proclaimed the plea pronounced by the pioneers. Much growth has been realized, but considering what must be done and the greatness of the opportunities we recognize that we have really only begun. In the last fifteen years tremendous progress has been made. With more to assist locally, the church being larger in number now, the next fifteen or twenty years can see the Carolinas taken for the Lord to a greater extent than ever before. Those of us who are already here can do our best. Others can assist. God will bless. Altogether the work can be done and souls saved! What part will you have in this worthy undertaking?

The dominant religious groups in the Western Piedmont are Protestants. This is part of what several writers have called "The Bible Belt" and it is rare to find one who denies openly the existence of God and the inspiration of the Scriptures. The Roman Catholic church, although very definitely present, is not of great strength in this section. In the metropolitan areas the accent is on the future. Development of Christianity among these is urgent!

There are one hundred counties in North Carolina with a total population in excess of four million. In the twelve counties covered by this article (12% of the counties), some 850,000 people live (21% of the total population). There is only 1 member of the church to every 425 people in the general population in this 12 county area or a membership of only two-tenths of one percent of the population.

Brethren, God wants this increased (2 Peter 3:9). We are more than willing to do what we can to change the picture. Will you come over and help us? (Acts 16:9.)

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

Tony Forrest, N. C. News Editor
Box 714, Taylorsville, N. C.

Richard Harp, S. C. News Editor
Box 134, Lancaster, S. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

Clinton

U. A. HALL, Reporting: We plan a meeting the week of Thanksgiving with Virgil Richey from Spartanburg, S. C. doing the preaching each night at 7:30.

Greenville, Edgewood

ERNEST THIGPEN, Reporting: Since July we have had ten responses to the invitation--two of which were for baptism. Presently plans are to be drawn up for an auditorium and we hope to build next year, if a loan can be obtained.

Our fall gospel meeting is scheduled for November 15th-22nd at 7:30 each evening with Rhoden Presnell of Charleston, S. C. Of special interest will be the fact that Bro. Presnell plans to use flannelboard lessons at every service. Also, we plan to have a singing on November 15th at three o'clock.

Duncan

RAYMOND H. CLIMER, Reporting: From Sept. 27th-Oct. 4th the church here at Duncan was engaged in a gospel meeting. There were eight responses to the Lord's invitation, six baptisms and two restorations.

Woodruff

OTTIS L. QUALLS, Reporting: Kenneth Willis of Tryon, N. C. preached in our meeting Sept. 20--27th. We had 35 visitors from the local community. We have cottage meetings in progress now with some who attended the meeting. I have just returned from Tryon where we were blessed with 8 baptisms in that meeting. We have three meetings scheduled here in Woodruff for 1965.

North Charleston, Durant Ave.

J. C. WATKINS, Reporting: This congregation was engaged in a most successful Gospel Meeting October 4-11 with Homer A. Daniel of Chattanooga, Tennessee. There were twenty responses to the Lord's invitation, five of which were baptized into Christ. This brings our total to 175 for the year, 56 of which were baptized.

Florence

H. P. DODD, Reporting: Attendance is up and interest is high at Florence. We have just experienced a successful meeting with Gilbert Kretzer of Florence, Ala. We had both morning and evening services with the morning services being carried on WOLS radio, Three adults became Christians that week. The church enjoys the "Carolina Christian" very much. The articles are clear, instructive, and enlightening.

Lancaster

RICHARD HARP, Reporting: We have just concluded a most successful meeting at Lancaster with two people being baptized. We had more visitors from the denominational churches than in any meeting before. Marvin Bryant has been scheduled for a five day meeting, however the interest was so high we continued it another five days with David Pharr speaking the last three services. We have eight cottage meetings underway. Our attendance and contribution have increased considerably in the last few weeks.

Moore

BOYD WEST, Reporting: We are on the

move at Moore. Recently, Richard Arnet, our local preacher, baptized eight souls into Christ. We have had about ten to be restored. Sunday evening, Oct. 18, we had 75 present for worship which breaks all records. We are making plans for a new building.

Sumter

RAY D. WINN, Reporting: Since beginning the work here the first of Sept. there have been 14 additions to this congregation. We were given particular reason to rejoice recently when a Baptist preacher came and made known the fact that he wanted to practice pure and simple New Testament Christianity. He hopes to preach the gospel in the future in some area where the church is not able to support a full time minister. We are working with him to that end.

We have started a personal work program and look forward to great things being done in the Lord's work.

Union

HAROLD L. SIMMONS, Reporting: Roy Burgess of Fort Payne, Ala. conducted our fall meeting. One was baptized. Woodrow Ward has recently been appointed to the office of Deacon, making five elders and two deacons.

The colored congregation here is in desperate need of a full time man to work with them. We have such a man, Larue Stocker, who is willing to come and work with them as soon as his support can be raised. If you know of a congregation that would be willing to help with this work, please have them contact the elders here by mail: Church of Christ, P.O. Box 64, Union, S. C.

Notice my change of address: Harold L. Simmons, Route 4, Box 269, Union, S.C.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

Jacksonville

BUFORD CARROLL, Reporting: During August I Began work with the congregation here. Last Lord's day (20 Sept.) 14 souls asked forgiveness of sins; after prayer was offered, these were re-united in a spirit of love and fellowship. We completed our VBS with an average attendance of 80 each day. We have begun the "Herald of Truth", which can be seen locally on TV. Our Sunday morning attendance averages 115-117; we are self-supporting, and we plan to build a new auditorium this coming year.

Wilmington

J. W. BENSON, Reporting: Wilmington is situated in an area containing approximately 76,000 people most of whom have never heard the truth and is need of a minister. The work here is challenging and necessitates an extremely able man. We will appreciate a letter or phone call from anyone interested in or knowing of a person interested in a real challenge.

Radio programs, "The Herald of Truth" and "The Bible Speaks," are heard from WHSL radio each Sunday morning from 8 to 9 a.m. These programs have made several contacts for us during the past two months and are proving valuable in our community relations. If you know of anyone moving into this area, will you please send their names and addresses as soon as possible.

Taylorsville

TONY FORREST, Reporting: The church here is enjoying its new building. Since moving in on July 19, we have had a number of visitors from the community. Harold Scott held us a good meeting Sept. 20-26. We had an average attendance of 46 with 27 non-members paying us a total of 39 visits.

We went on the air Sept. 6 with a 15 min. program over WSTH, 860 Kilocycles, heard 7:45-8:00 a.m., Sundays. We hope to be offering free literature and correspondence courses soon.

One was baptized recently.

Woodleaf

RONNIE L. ULREY, Reporting: Sept. 1 marked the end of my first year with the church here. Since Jan. our membership has increased from 66 to 92 members, with 18 baptisms, 7 restorations, and 7 to place membership. Our Sunday morning Bible Study has increased from 41 to 59 per service, morning worship from 67 to 99 per service, evening worship from 53 to 63 per service and Wednesday night Bible study from 41 to 59 per service. Also, our contribution has increased from $99.00 per week to $128.00 per week.

The church gave $25 on the booth at Iredel County Fair, which was sponsored by the Broad St. church in Statesville.

Mocksville

CARMEN WALKER, Reporting: Sept. 27 the following brethren were appointed to serve as deacons of this congregation: Doyle Bean, J. W. McClannon, Wayne Seamon, Robah Smith, and Pete Walker.

We have begun to replenish our food pantry as well as our clothing collected for the needy.

The Gospel Advocate is now being passed each week to all families in the congregation. An area-wide Young Peoples' Singing was held here Oct. 11th. The next singing will be held at the Jericho Church of Christ.

Kinston

NOYLES E. SEWELL, Reporting: During the past month six baptisms, two from the Christian church, and three faithful Christians moving to the city, increased our membership by 11 and bring the total number of additions for this year to 23, of which 16 were baptisms.

On Oct. 4th we set a new record for Bible Study attendance with 133 present. We look forward to our meeting Nov. 15-20 with Marvin Bryant of Gaffney, S. C.

Tryon

KENNETH WILLIS, Reporting: Our fall gospel meeting came to a close Oct. 11 with ten precious souls responding to the Master's invitation--two were restored and eight were baptized into Christ. On the Wednesday night previous to our meeting, one was restored to her first love. Ottis Qualls of Woodruff, S. C. presented the wonderful gospel story in a simple, yet powerful way throughout the meeting. There were about 28 different non-members attending during the series of meetings. The church has purchased film strip equipment for use with new members and prospects.

Gastonia

PAUL S. GRAY, Reporting: Two have been restored and one has been baptized during the past week. Contributions in Sept. averaged about $15 weekly above that of August. Our radio program each Saturday from 11:30 till 11:55 on WGNC at 1450 on the AM dial and 102 on the FM band is attracting some attention. Nov. 16 to 22nd William B. Kughn of Anniston, Alabama will be here in a meeting.

Burlington

HOWARD WINTERS, Reporting: Since moving here from Wilmington in the first part of August, we have seen the work in Burlington move along in a very fine way. The Lord truly blessed us with a great gospel meeting October 5-11 with Joe Costilow, from Rocky Mount, N. C. Two very fine and useful Christians were restored and two young people were baptized.

Winston-Salem, South Main

W. E. SKIPPER, Reporting: The South Main church was established in 1921. Since that time the following preachers have served the congregation: Cecil Derryberry, Neil Lightfoot, Robert Crawley, J. D. Parker, Jerry Richardson, and at the present W. E. Skipper serves as minister. The present church building is 16 years old.

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After the establishment of the South Fork congregation in 1958, the South Main Church has once again grown to a membership of 230 with an attendance of 280 to 310 each Lord's Day and a contribution of $420. The elders have foreseen the need of establishing another congregation in the Northwestern section of the city in the future, therefore, they have set up a building fund for this need.

Cubstead Speaker At Annual Meeting

Mr. Cubstead

Lane Cubstead is Managing Editor of the Christian Chronicle, the only international weekly newspaper published for members of the churches of Christ. Its 35,000-plus circulation ranks it in the top three of all periodicals published by members of the church.

He is also Director of Publications for Fidelity Press, a division of Fidelity Enterprises, Inc., of Abilene, Texas. Fidelity Press, in addition to the Christian Chronicle, publishes the Christian Woman (circulation over 23,000) and Teenage Christian (over 9,000).

Cubstead is a native of Texas and graduated from high school in Colorado. He holds the B. A. degree with a major in journalism from Abilene Christian College (1956) and a Master of Journalism from the University of Texas (1957).

He has served as a state capital newsman, a reporter on a local daily newspaper, director of public information for Abilene Christian College and a journalism instructor at ACC.

He has been Managing Editor of the Christian Chronicle since 1958 and has appeared in various capacities at lectureships and workshops at Michigan Christian College, Pepperdine College and Abilene Christian College--speaking and teaching on various phases of Christian journalism.

Cubstead is a deacon with the College church of Christ in Abilene, Texas, and serves on the bulletin, advertising and mission committees of that congregation. He is married and has two children.

Annual Meeting of the Carolina Christian Publications, Inc. Friday, November 20th

Open Business Meeting of Advisory Board and Board of Directors

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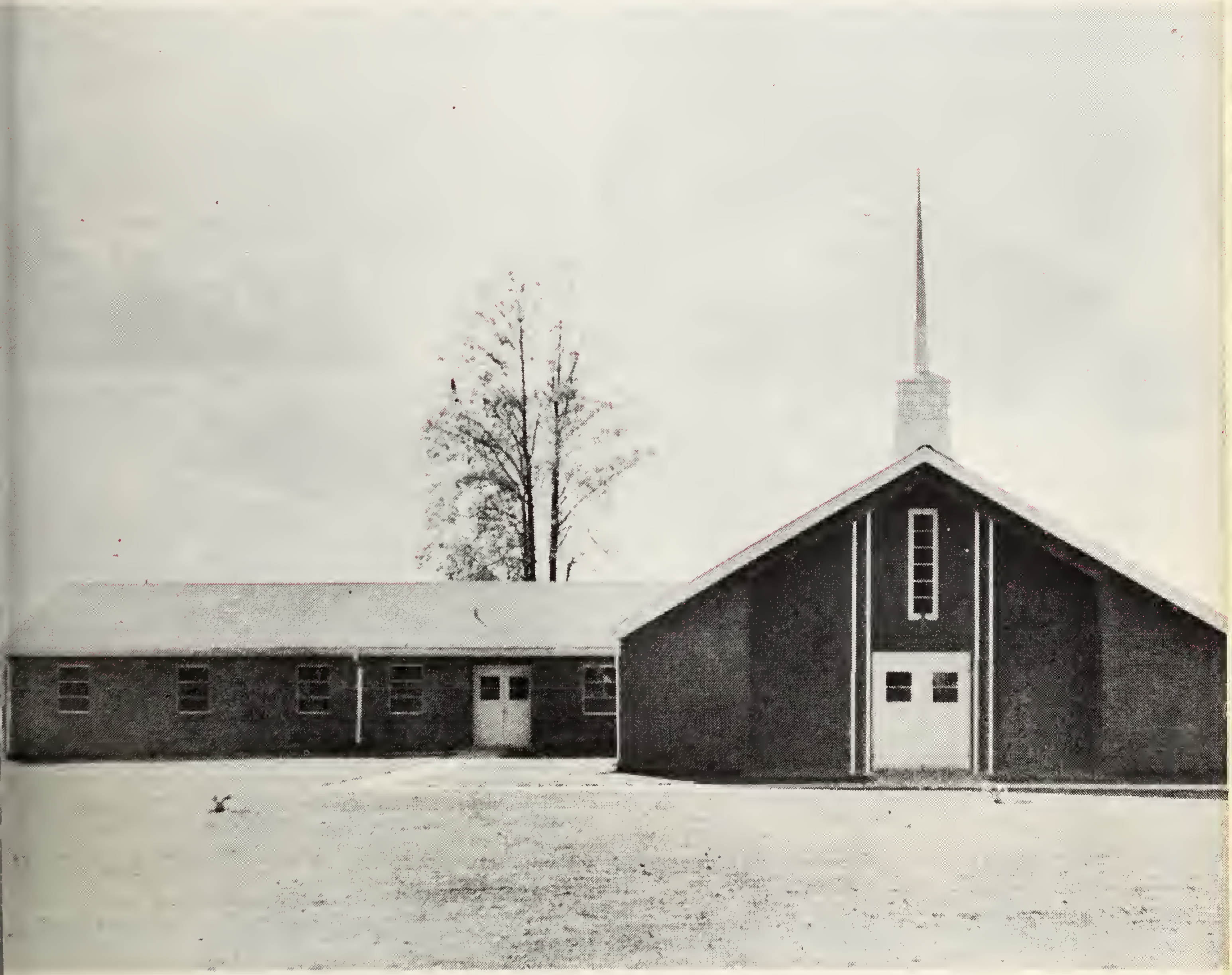

Castle Heights Church of Christ
Winston-Salem, N. C.

DECEMBER, 1964 VOLUME 6, NO. 12

COOPERATION IN EVANGELISM

Johnny Sewell, Charlotte, N.C.

The story is told of some prisoners who, as a part of their punishment, had long spoons strapped to their right arms in such a manner that they could not bend their elbows. This made it impossible for the men to feed themselves and, as time passed, some died in the agony of starvation. Others discovered that it was a simple thing to feed one another. While one group died slowly for lack of understanding of the principle of cooperation, the other group understood, were well fed and lived. (Firm Foundation, Sept. 29, 1964, page 622.)

The Lord lays upon his church the pressing obligation of taking the gospel to every soul on earth in every generation. (Matthew 28:19; Acts 8:3,4.) It should cause us no little concern that souls are dying with the tick of the clock who have heard little or nothing about Jesus of Nazareth. Through cooperation we can greatly strengthen our efforts to save the world!

The Bible uses various illustrations by which to provide a realistic picture of the true nature of the church. In each of these illustrations which shall be cited the cooperation and interdependence of one part with other parts are clearly established.

The scriptures compare the church universal to the human body. "...speaking truth in love, may grow up in all things unto him, who is the head, even Christ, from whom all the body fitly framed and knit together through that which every joint supplieth, according to the working in due measure of each several part, maketh the increase of the body unto the building up of itself in love." (Ephesians 4:15,16.) "And he put all things in subjection under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church, which is his body..." (Ephesians 1:22,23.) We know very well that each part of the body, functioning as God ordained, contributes to the welfare of the entire body. How absurd would it be for the hand to say to the eye, "I know you are itching, but I can't help you. I don't believe in cooperation." What would be the result if the heart refused to cooperate with the other bodily members by ceasing to pump blood throughout the system? The body lives and prospers because every organ works together harmoniously for the accomplishment of common purposes. So it is with the church universal.

The New Testament clearly sets forth the principle that congregations may contribute to sister congregations to enable them to do works that they could not do alone! This holds true in the fields of evangelism, benevolence, constructing a meeting house or in any other worthy work.

In recent years there has arisen within the churches of Christ a faction of legalistic brethren opposed to sponsoring church cooperative evangelism. By "sponsoring" is simply meant the undertaking of a specific work, such as the preaching of the gospel on the radio and television as is

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done by the Highland church in Abilene, Texas via the Herald of Truth, with the assistance of sister congregations. This faction has, in some respects, grown more radical with the passing of time. Now the movement is in a state of decline. The radical views held by these brethren contain the seed of self-destruction; thence has come the decline. Loyal congregations are stronger than ever in their ability and determination to take the world for Christ through any scriptural means possible. The churches in the Carolinas, with a few exceptions, have been relatively free from this problem. This is good in many ways. However, this situation has left some brethren uninformed and that is dangerous. The Lord said, "...ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32.) A list of publications helpful to the person desirous of studying this matter further is given at the end of this writing.

The principle of congregational cooperation is clearly established in the Bible. If the component parts of a thing are each right, the thing itself in total is right. (Lectures on Church Cooperation and Orphan Homes, Thomas B. Warren, Neal Marshall, Publisher.) For the sponsoring church cooperation principle to be wrong and sinful, some one or more of its elements must be wrong. We believe all the elements are right and the principle true to the Word of God. Anyone who would oppose church cooperation must prove that one or more of these items is sinful or show that an essential element, which is wrong, has been left out. Neither thing can be done!

Item One: Each congregation is obligated to take the gospel as effectively as possible to as many people as possible in every age of time. (Matthew 28:19.)

Item Two: Every congregation has the right to seek to meet this obligation by undertaking the accomplishment of one or more specific works. (Philippians 2:13.) This specific work may be a radio or television program carried locally or worldwide (the field is the world), the preaching of the gospel in the newspapers or magazines or in any other expedient manner.

Item Three: After determining to do a specific work, a congregation has the right to carry the plans to completion. (2 Cor. 8:10, 11.)

Item Four: Before any particular eldership has the oversight of a given work, several congregations may have been equally related to it. This is illustrated by a time's being made available for a religious broadcast in an area in which there are several congregations. Any one of these churches could have said, "We will contract for that time."

Item Five: A change of relationship to a specific work occurs when one congregation actually signs a contract with the station or does whatever is necessary to get the work started. After one congregation agrees to take the time, the relationship of the other congregations to that particular radio station has changed.

Item Six: Another church may give assistance to the church that assumed the work to aid it in the accomplishment of the task. Other churches can contribute even if the receiving church is not destitute. The assistance one church may give another can involve physical (Acts 11:27-30) and/or spiritual things (Acts 15:22-29).

Item Seven: The elders of a particular church may have the oversight of a work which is beyond their financial ability to perform alone. The churches of Judea were able, upon receipt of assistance from the church in Antioch, to do a work which they could not have done without help. (Acts 11:27-30.) The oversight of this work rested with the churches in Judea to which the contribution was made.

Item Eight: The work undertaken need not have been begun as a result of some catastrophe. (Acts 11:22-24.)

Item Nine: There can be right or liberty to act where there is no specific responsibility. There are no exclusive patterns regarding congregational cooperation. A local church may choose to participate in a given work or decline without sinning so long as it is doing its best to fulfill God's will. For one to say you have no liberty

(see page 6)

SOUTHWEST S. C.

Richard Walker, Aiken, S.C.

Bamberg, S. C.: The church has been meeting in Bamberg a little over two years. Albert C. Powell is the present minister and is supported by Kingwood Heights of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Their record attendance of some 51 was set in October of this year. They are presently engaged in a building program. The contract has been let to Continental Church Builders of Nashville, Tennessee and construction is to begin in January of 1965. The Shandon church in Columbia, S. C. and Wynwood Hills of Dallas, Texas are the major sources of support for their building fund. Their greatest need is the completion of this building and the proper furnishings. They are in need of some $3,000 additional money to realize this without too much strain.

Orangeburg, S. C.: The work in Orangeburg was seriously injured some time back by 'anti' influence. According to information received this congregation has dispersed and is no longer meeting in Orangeburg. The metropolitan population of this city is approximately 20,000. There is a great potential in this city and should be given much consideration. For further information concerning this work write: L. L. Rawlings; Church of Christ; Bamberg, S. C.

Jackson, S. C.: The city of Jackson is a small community having approximately 2,000 residents and is located some 15 miles southeast of Augusta, Georgia. The Lord's church was established in Jackson in 1952. There are presently 22 members of the church. Their average attendance is 40 with a contribution of approximately $75.00 weekly. Raymond D. Mock is their present minister and reports some four restorations in the last six months. They are in urgent need of support if they are to carry on an active and adequate program of teaching. For further information of their financial needs please contact: Raymond Mock, Church of Christ, Jackson, South Carolina.

Aiken, S. C.: The work in Aiken has great potential with a metropolitan population of some 25,000. There are 75 members of the church with attendance about 110. In the last 16 months the church has had some 46 people to move as a result of being transferred by DuPont. This congregation will be in need of some $250.00 weekly beginning the first of the year. This amount will include payments on a new building. Property has been purchased, plans secured, and a temporary contractor has been selected to construct the much needed building. The congregation is in need of selling its old property before construction can begin. The average contribution is now about $200.00 weekly. To continue with present plans some fifty dollars of support is needed weekly. The church in Donelson, Tennessee has committed itself for twenty dollars of this support. In the last sixteen months there have been some nineteen baptisms and thirteen restorations. Their present minister is Richard Walker. For further information please write: James South, 209 Dunbarton Circle, Aiken, S. C.

Barnwell, S. C.: At present the church has a membership of about 40 with regular attendance of about 50. The contribution usually averages $100.00 per week. Outside support for their minister, G. W. Childs, is being received from the Granny White Church of Christ, Nashville, Tenn. The property on which their new building has been erected is valued at $58,000.00. The building, which will seat about three hundred people, is more than adequate at the present time. There remains a debt of about $36,000 on the building. The church does not have a preacher's home. The population of Barnwell is about 4,568. For further information write: G. W. Childs, P. O. Box 285, Barnwell, S. C.

Williston, S. C.: Like many of the con–

(see page 6)

Spirit Of New Testament Co-Operation

Leslie G. Thomas, Asheville, N.C.

When one assumes the responsibility of saying what the Bible does or does not teach, he should base his conclusions on sound principles of biblical interpretations, and not on ipse dixits. A failure to follow this line of reasoning, especially with reference to the current discussion of co-operative efforts, has resulted in much erroneous teaching and alienation among brethren in many sections of the country. This, of course, has had an adverse effect upon the growth and development of the church; and if something is not done about it, many will be lost eternally.

The problem which has grown out of the situation just mentioned is a serious one, but it is not beyond the possibility of solution, if only brethren will make an honest and sincere effort to do something about it. It should be obvious to any thoughtful person that sound principles of biblical interpretation have never led people into error; but when professed Bible students make their own unproved assertions the basis of their teaching, error is certain to follow. There is hardly a preacher among us who has not stressed the idea that one learns that which the Bible teaches (1) by a direct command or statement of fact, (2) an approved example, and (3) a necessary inference.

The principles of biblical interpretation just mentioned are sound, but they can easily be misapplied, if one is not careful. This is especially true of the second one. Not every example is binding on people today, even though it be one involving an apostle; for if that were true, we would have to follow, for instance, Paul's example of travel as he went about preaching the gospel. But when the New Testament tells people to do something, but does not specify all the details (the time for eating the Lord's supper, for example), we can learn from an approved incident that which we know will be pleasing to the Lord. (See Acts 20:7.)

The Record Versus Arbitrary Assertions

The New Testament plainly tells us that Paul urged several congregations to collect and send monies to relieve the needs of those in Judaea; and it is interesting to note that the apostle recognized and provided for the autonomy of the congregation in the matter of the disposition of such collections. It was each contributing church's responsibility to see to it that the money which had been gathered reached its intended designation; but there is no evidence that the congregations which gave the money had any responsibility with reference to its distribution among the needy. (Read 1 Corinthians 16:1-4; cf. Acts 11:27-30.)

Any one who considers the facts in the case will be able to see that when a church (local congregation) gives money for a worthy cause, that it does so as an independent group of God's people. It is right to help relieve the needs of the poor, and it is likewise right to administer to the spiritual needs of the lost. If a congregation may send money which it does not help to administer to relieve the needs of the poor, then why is it not within the right of the same congregation to send money which it does not help to spend to help preach the gospel to the lost? If there is a difference between the two cases, upon what principle is the difference based?

If a congregation decides to assist needy children in a home, the contributing church loses none of its autonomy in making such contributions; for it can give or not give as it chooses. It can authorize its money to be used for any purpose it desires, or it can request the management of the home use the money as it sees fit. If the brethren are convinced that the money which they are sending is not being used wisely, they can take immediate steps to make whatever corrections they deem best.

Obeying The Powers That Be

There are brethren who object to contributing to homes for needy children, because they are under a board of directors, other than the elders of a single congregation. In the first place, there is no authority whatsoever for elders as such to supervise anything outside the congregation. However, there would be nothing wrong in their taking the added responsibility of overseeing the home, provided they had the time and the opportunity; but they would not be doing so as elders.

But the same brethren who object to a home's complying with the law of the land by organizing itself under a board of directors, do not hesitate to "incorporate" the church and appoint trustees (often different from the elders), in order to meet the requirements of the state. Where do they read about a New Testament church having trustees? Upon what principle do they make the difference between the church and the home in trying to obey the powers that be?

The spirit of New Testament co-operation is clearly seen in the conduct of the early Christian, as they sought to bear one another's burdens. No congregation was denied the right to help others, and neither did any church lose its autonomy in doing so. Paul exhorted the Galatian churches, according to their opportunity, to "work that which is good toward all men, and especially toward they that are of the household of the faith." (Galatians 6:10.)

SOUTHWEST S. C. (cont'd)

gregations in this area the church in Williston has suffered as a result of many of its members being transferred as DuPont employees from the Savannah River Plant. Their attendance, membership, and contribution has suffered greatly. At present they are without a minister and will be in need of some outside support. Their membership is approximately 40 with a contribution of about $100 weekly. They are in need of some support and a preacher. You may write for further information to Tom Jackson, Church of Christ, Williston, S. C.

The following are counties and cities with no church and with great potential: Newberry County 29,416, City of Newberry 8,504; Saluda County 14,554, City of Saluda 2,089; Fairfield County 20,713, City of Winnsboro 3,479; McCormick County 8,629, City of McCormick 1,998. For further information write: Shandon Church of Christ, 2925 Devine Street, Columbia, S. C.

Johnston, S. C.: There is a great opportunity for the establishment of the church in the Johnston and Edgefield area. Johnston has a population of 2,119, and Edgefield's population is 2,876. There are six members of the church who live in Johnston, but they have not been meeting together. This is a good opportunity and deserves further study. For further information write: Richard Walker, P. O. Box 654, Aiken, S. C.

COOPERATION (cont'd)

to act in cooperation with other churches is for him to make a law where God has not legislated and for him to become a creed maker.

Each of these nine items is in harmony with God's will. Therefore, the whole is in harmony with Holy Writ. Cooperation does not interfere with congregational autonomy. Where is the church that has lost its autonomy by cooperation?

Never has the church of our Lord had so many opportunities. Let us work to use everyone to its full advantage.

SUGGESTED READING

Thomas, J. D., We Be Brethren, Biblical Research Press, 1958.

West, W. B., Jr., How The New Testament Church Took Care of Orphans.

Baxter, Batsell Barrett, Question and Issues of the Day in the Light of Scriptures.

Harper, E. R., Harper's Answer to Tant's Booklet on "Sponsoring Church Cooperation."

Pullias, Athens Clay, Where There Is No Pattern.

Nichols, Gus, New Testament Principles of Caring for the Needy.

Deavers, Roy, Highlights of the Douthitt-Warren Debate.

PLACING HIM FIRST IN OUR LIVES

C. R. Franks

We all operate under a system of priorities, in a sense, throughout life. When a thing has priority that thing comes earlier in our life's activity than other things. Our priorities require that we make frequent choices. It may be that at times we are hardly aware of even making choices. When we have assigned priority to the left shoe over the right, for instance, we may be virtually unaware of having made a choice, but we cannot say that we did not make a choice. Neither can we say that we are not responsible for that choice and the resulting priority.

What causes our choices and therefore our priorities? What are the principles or policies that guide us in making our choices? Most likely we are not aware of the greater influences in our day to day activities. It must be that most of our decisions are made by deeply ingrained habits or traditions--the customs that have become so much a part of us that we hardly are conscious of them. These have their genesis in what we see, feel, touch, and use. Consequently priority is given to these things that we have seen, felt, touched, used in overwhelming measure.

If this reasoning be logical it follows that we must make ourselves conscious and alert about the things we use or the people with whom we associate and from whom we absorb customs, habits, principles. We need candid, maybe even calloused examination of people and of things. Without this we will develop a pattern of habits and customs that will result in the most unworthy and insipid things being the first things in our lives.

We can observe many cases where people have given first place to the most insignificant and unimportant things. We also see cases where others have given first place to the most unworthy people. There are times when a deluded person has given priority to some goal unworthy of serious attention. All of us truly allow a set of priorities to operate in our lives. When the first object, thing, or person is less than the best we are seriously and eternally wrong, and we are less than our best as a result.

Our Creator said that we should seek first the kingdom and his righteousness in Matthew 6:33. He attached a promise --a Divine commitment--that if we would give priority to the right things, then after our so doing he would see that all things needed would be added to us. These would be in addition to the attainment of his kingdom and his righteousness.

Can any man ever suggest a greater goal in life than putting him and his righteousness first? Can there be a greater attainment than becoming a part of his kingdom? Jesus said that among those born of woman there had none arisen greater than John the baptizer, yet the person who is least in the kingdom (church) is greater than John. (Matthew 11:11.) Without qualification we bodly proclaim that Jesus Christ, His Kingdom, and His Righteousness must be first for anyone to be really truly happy and more important for anyone to have any hope whatever of eternal life.

But how can he be placed first in our lives, and how can his kingdom have priority, and what is the means by which we can attain his righteousness? Obviously if our Creator demands this, then he must reveal how it can be accomplished.

A basic truth is that our first love is directed toward "the object of our affection." "For where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also." (Matthew 6:21.) Love is defined as "an enduring affection that causes continuous service." Our Lord asks our love. This means that he seeks, merits, and should have our "enduring affection, causing our continuous service."

If the Lord is to be first in our lives he must first be the object of our love. Love develops where there is common interest, mutual effort, frequent discussion and two-way communication.

Certainly our Lord is interested in us and knows and feels everything that happens among his people. (Acts 9:5, 1 Corinthians 8:12.) Is his interest in us reciprocated by us?

Jesus is constantly making effort on our behalf and in fact is at the right hand of God for this specific purpose. (Hebrews 9:24; 7:25; 1 Timothy 2:5; John 5:17.) Unless we are matching his constant efforts there is no mutual effort; we would in this event be guilty of trying to gain his effort on our behalf without our giving any effort in return. But if there is true love there must be two participating.

Discussion and communication must be frequent and full or there is a breakdown in any relationship. Certainly we shall not be priviledged as were the other apostles to talk face to face with the Lord while we are in the flesh. Then the only means of "discussion" is resort to his unchangeable word. We know that he has given this for us to receive as his message. His "discussion" with us had to take this form or else he would have to make face to face appearances to each and every human throughout the age in order to be fair and equal with all men. Since neither God nor Jesus is a respecter of persons the means of "discussion" must be exactly the same for all people. It is obvious thus that we must spend time with his gospel to have what he purposes and proposes for us. (Ephesians 3:3-4; 2 Timothy 2:15; Revelation 1:3.)

There's a beautiful and effective communication set before the members of Christ's body in the Lord's Supper. Paul calls the eating of the bread and drinking of the cup the communion of the body and the blood, in 1 Cor. 10:16. This word communion is from the same source as the word communication and carries also the meaning of mutual participation and fellowship.

Of course our "talking" to the Lord is through our prayers which must be frequent and full. He yearns for us to express ourselves to him in prayer. (1 Timothy 2:1-2, 8; Philippians 4:6.)

As a consequence we see that in order for him to be first in our lives, there must be "two-way" communication.

There is no hope whatever for any person without Jesus Christ. For this reason he must be first in our lives. Unless this is true we are of all men most miserable, and our period on earth will have been worse than worthless. We all have a nominal desire for him to be first, but very few of us can really and truly say that he IS first!

If we would make him first and his way first it can be done only and solely through the obedience of love. Jesus said that if we love him we will keep his commandments, and conversely that if we do not keep his commandments we prove that we do not love him, in John 14:23-24. He adds that this principle or test is not even his own but is that of God himself.

Would you make him first in your life? Then let yourself love him. You will love him if there is interest on your part, if there is activity, if there is reception of His Gospel and if there is frequent prayer and worship.

Where these principles prevail Jesus is indeed first and the person who has made him so is the one who has promise of heaven.

Give Jesus priority! Give Jesus the right-of-way! Let Jesus be first!

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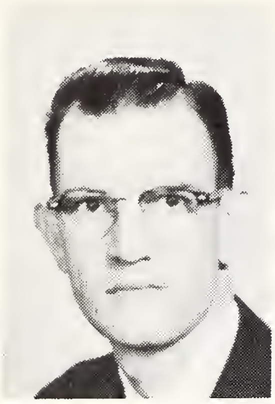
BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Johnny C. Sewell, Charlotte, N.C.



JAMES E. LAIRD, well known and deeply loved gospel preacher who pioneered in many fields including the Carolinas, departed this life during surgery on November 10 in a Chattanooga, Tennessee hospital.

RONALD W. HUDDLESTON, M.D., our medical missionary in Tanganyika, Africa, treats between 50 and 250 patients each day. They, having heard of "the good medicine" provided by the mission at Chimala, bring bodies racked with tuberculosis, sleeping sickness, malaria, pneumonia and leprosy. In the area there is one doctor for every 100,000 people. More equipment is needed for the hospital recently constructed.

A two year mission program has been launched by the Western Avenue church, TOLEDO, OHIO, the purpose of which is to assist the church in ISRAEL. Property has been purchased in Nazareth and Elabun and a building permit has been approved by the Nazareth City Council for the construction of a meeting house.

Plans are materializing for the establishment of the church in GENEVA, SWITZERLAND. The NEIL COSGROVE and TED POINDEXTER families plan to go to Geneva in September, 1965.

Of interest to gospel preachers is the fact that Congress has again extended the deadline for ministers desiring to become covered by the Social Security Act to April 15, 1965.

The GOSPEL PRESS reports that over one hundred million copies of magazines have carried their advertisements to three hundred million readers in 50 states and scores of foreign countries since 1955. LIFE and the nationally circulated newspaper supplement, "FAMILY WEEKLY," will carry the next Gospel Press advertisements as soon as sufficient funds are available.

HENRYK CISZEK, a leader in the contemporary Restoration Movement in Poland, has returned to Warsaw to rejoin the work of the church there. Ciszek was pressured into leaving Poland some ten months ago by the government which object to his religious activities.

MRS. B. C. GOODPASTURE, wife of the Editor of the GOSPEL ADVOCATE, passed away in a NASHVILLE, TENN. hospital on November 2 after an extended illness.

A member of the church in APRILIA, ITALY was summoned to appear for trial on November 30 before the District Court in Latina, South of Rome. He was accused of having violated the Italian Penal Code for having in a display window of the church building in Via dei Lauir a poster in which it was said: "The Pope is not the Vicar of Christ. Christ is always present in his church and does not need a Vicar."

Exactly 500 responded to the gospel invitation during the eight day South Plains Coliseum Meeting held in Lubbock, Texas. The attendance for the nine services totaled nearly 70,000.

A second Campaign held in Albany, Ga. with Harvey Starling as preacher ended with a total of 144 responses, 78 of which were baptisms. This Campaign increased the membership of the church in Albany by nearly 25%.

The Dutch membership of the church in THE HAGUE was more than doubled during a recent two week period. BILL RICHARDSON, who preached in Holland for 1 years and who now lives in Oldfield, Mo. spoke 15 nights consecutively on the theme "Christ, the Way to Unity."

Evangelists MAURICE HALL AND PHIL CARPENTER report that 16 persons have obeyed the gospel in recent weeks in Saigon.

N. I. C. E., Villanova, Pennsylvania has been renamed Northestern Christian Col

SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MEETING

By Ray Fullerton

A highly successful Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors and Advisory Board of Carolina Christian Publications, Inc., was held in Charlotte on November 20, 1964. About thirty-five members of the two Boards and other interested persons attended the afternoon open business session and the evening dinner meeting. Setting of the gatherings was Barclay Cafeteria in Charlotte. This was the Second Annual Meeting of the newly organized non-profit corporation.

Keynote speaker was Lane Cubstead, Managing Editor of the CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE, Abilene, Texas.

Presiding at both sessions was Johnny C. Sewell, minister of the Westside church in Charlotte. Sewell is Chairman of the Board. Sewell called for reports of progress and present status and for projections of future operations.

A top priority circulation goal of 3,000 by November 20, 1965, was adopted by the Board. This would nearly double present circulation figures. Bill G. Smith, Rockingham, N. C., is the newly appointed Circulation Manager.

Virgil T. Richie, Spartanburg, S. C., presented the first public report on the operations of the newly established Book Store Division. Richie reported an increase of profits but pointed out that only fifteen to twenty percent of the Carolina congregations are using the services of the bookstore.

Two men received Outstanding Service Awards for their contributions to the CAROLINA CHRISTIAN in the past 12 months. Shown above at the presentation are: Johnny Sewell, Chairman of the Board, center; Virgil T. Richie, Manager of the Book Store Division, left; and Carl Lancaster, Greenville, S.C., Assistant Editor, right. Richie has operated the Book Store Division since its inception, bringing it from a "zero operation" to a going business now showing accruing profits and increasing assets. He serves without remuneration of any sort. Lancaster handles many details not only of editing but in mailing, etc.

On hand for the November 20 meetings of the Board of Directors and Advisory Board of Carolina Christian Publications, Inc., were various department heads of the CAROLINA CHRISTIAN. Shown above left to right, are: Carl Lancaster, Assistant Editor; Bill G. Smith, Circulation Manager; Richard Harp, Lancaster, S. C. South Carolina News Editor; and Burl Curtis, Greenville, S. C., Editor.

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Ruel Lemmons, Editor of the Firm Foundation, is scheduled to be the speaker at the next Annual Meeting of Carolina Christian, November, 1965.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Keynote speaker for the Second Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, Carolina Christian Publications, Inc., was Lane Cubstead, Managing Editor, CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE, Abilene, Texas.

Cubstead is shown in the picture to the left as he spoke, offering advice and encouragement to those interested in the fields of Christian journalism and public relations.

He denied the commonly accepted myth that "newspapers are prejudiced against churches of Christ." He suggested that a more knowledgeable and tactful handling of some of the problems would eliminate many unpleasant experiences in the area of religious journalism. News media want news, he pointed out, and it is our business to see that they get it.

Cubstead pointed to the writings of Luke as examples of good reporting. Luke let his readers know What happened, When, Where, to Whom, Why and How; and he did it with Accuracy, Brevity and Clarity. He suggested capitalizing on good news stories and presenting them to the media in a favorable light.

Cubstead believes that the discouraging small circulation figures boasted of by our brotherhood papers (less than 400,000 total among all journals published by our brethren!) is not necessarily an indication of a lack of interest or concern. Rather, he suggested, it is a challenge to the brotherhood to produce material that is more worthy of the interest and readership of members of the church.

Cubstead, who came at the invitation of the Board, is a graduate of Abilene Christian College and the University of Texas. He is a deacon of the College church of Christ in Abilene, and worked extensively in preparations for the exhibit at the World's Fair.

McGARVEY FELLOWSHIP

ABILENE, Texas---The fourth annual McGarvey Fellowship Program will be held June 7 to July 17 at Abilene Christian College, according to ACC President Don H. Morris. Fifty preachers, teachers, and missionaries will be accepted into the summer graduate Bible program.

The McGarvey Fellowships, supported jointly by the college and an anonymous benefactor, provide full room, board, and tuition for the six-week program. Those eligible for application for the scholarships must have a bachelor's degree, be qualified for graduate work, and have been working in the field as a preacher, teacher, or missionary.

The program was established to serve as a refresher course and stimulus to ministers. Almost 150 men have received McGarvey Fellowships, and praise of the practical benefit of the program has been very high.

Courses offered emphasize the contrast of restoration studies and contemporary religious thought. Biographies of the Restoration Movement taught by J. W. Roberts, and Contemporary Religious Thought under J. D. Thomas, will be taught this summer. Classes meet Monday through Friday with extra meetings for instruction and fellowship. Students may commute to weekend appointments.

Any qualified student may apply with selection to be made by a committee appointed by President Morris. Those receiving fellowships must apply for admission to graduate study at ACC, but this does not commit them to continued study beyond the program.

Applications should be made to the McGarvey Fellowship Program; J. W. Roberts, Director; ACC Station, Box 173; Abilene, Texas 79601.

AN URGENT APPEAL

FACTS ABOUT THE CLINTON CHURCH

- The only congregation in Laurens County, S. C. (Population: 45,000)
- Church was established in January, 1964.
- Began with 7 members; now has 15 faithful Christians.
- Attendance averages 18.
- Contributions average $74.25 per week.
- Church meets in a converted residence in a good location.

A MOST PRESSING NEED

In order to obtain a meeting place, the church borrowed $3500 for a down payment on a residence. In addition to payments on the balance of $3500 that was financed they have paid $1075 on this loan for the down payment. A balance of over $2400 plus interest is owed on this loan for the down payment. This must be paid by March, 1965.

$2500 is urgently needed by March 1, 1965

This need can be met by:

- Each *Carolina Christian* subscriber giving $2.00
  or
- 25 congregations giving $100 each
  or
- 100 congregations giving $25 each.

Remember the 45,000 souls of Laurens County.

Send your contributions to

Church of Christ
603 N. Broad Street
Clinton, S. C.

CAROLINA CHURCH NEWS

Tony Forrest, N. C. News Editor
Box 714, Taylorsville, N. C.

Richard Harp, S. C. News Editor
Box 134, Lancaster, S. C.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

NEWS BRIEFS

TONY FORREST, Reporting: Harold Scott, minister for the Broad St. church in Statesville, is making final plans for his family, along with Mrs. Nora Nickolas to leave for New Zealand, where they will be working for approximately five years. ... Two new a-cepella groups have been started in recent months. One is directed by Wayman Love, of Spindale; the other by Bill Wallace, of Hickory and myself. I understand that a third group is being planned for the Winston area. ... The Church in Lenoir reports two baptisms and one restoration on November 1st. They also have a Teacher Training Series in progress and are now offering Hurt's Bible Correspondence Course. ... Send your church Bulletins to me and underline anything you would like to see mentioned in this section.

Rockingham

BECKY SETTLE, Reporting: Our meeting ended November 1, with Rhoden Presnell of the Durant Avenue Church of Christ in Charleston, S. C. as guest speaker. Much good was done by his lessons and his excellent presentation. The average attendance was 94 among whom were many visitors.

Our congregation has been blessed greatly in recent months by the fact that three families have moved into our area. We are very happy to have them to worship with us.

Gastonia

PAUL S. GRAY, Reporting: My last two meetings of the year, Columbus, Ohio and Millstone, West Virginia, were fairly well attended with some non-members attending rather regularly, but there were no additions. Attendance here at 500 Union Road has been greatly decreased in recent weeks due to illness. Some physical illness has been reported and spiritual illness also manifests itself. Contributions remain good, however. Next month we hope to report a good meeting, which, at this writing, is just about to begin with William B. Kughn of Anniston, Alabama preaching. Our weekly radio program continues each Saturday from 11:30 till 11:55 on WGNC at 1450 on the dial.

Winston-Salem, South Main

W. E. SKIPPER, Reporting: We now have four elders and five deacons serving this congregation. Our attendance and contributions have increased and interest is good. We moved into our new classrooms on Oct. 11 with an attendance of 307 for that day. A systematic study of the Bible has been set up for the Lord's Day morning and Wednesday evening classes. Maurice Howell, of Port Arthur, Texas concluded a week's meeting which resulted in one baptism and one restoration. Attendance during the meeting was good and the preaching excellent.

Since our last report three have been baptized, three restored, and two have placed membership.

I enjoy the Carolina Christian very much.

Kinston

NOYLES E. SEWELL, Reporting: October saw a new record attendance set with 133 in Bible Study and also a new record for average monthly attendance of 116. Two were restored from the instrumental brethren and two were baptized to bring our total baptisms to 17 for the year. Plans are being made to purchase the two adjoining lots so that the church will own the entire block and plans also move ahead on an educational annex with two stories. Marvin Bryant begins a meeting here Nov. 29. On the Sunday preceding the meeting we plan to cover the entire city with brochures advertising the meeting.

Highpoint

JAMES EDWARDS, Reporting: The church here is still considering land on which to build. One special site was considered by several members Sunday, November the 8th. This property is located just off Highway #29A in East, High Point. However, no decision has been reached on this land.

We are hoping to be able to report within the next year that our building program is well on the way.

Many new contacts were made during our recent meeting with Bill Smith, and also through our radio, and television program. We anticipate several cottage meetings with these contacts in the near future.

Frank Milton will be holding a meeting for the Bonnie Doon Congregation in Fayetteville, N. C., December 7-13, 1964. We would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone in this area to attend.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

Clinton

U. A. HALL, Reporting: Our attendance has been off this past month due to sickness, but the future looks bright and we are looking forward to our meeting with Virgil Richie Thanksgiving week. Your prayers are needed and we thank everyone who has helped us. May God bless your good work with the Carolina Publication.

Chester

THOMAS M. DANIEL, Reporting: We had a fine Gospel Meeting in October with W. S. Blackmon of Symrna, Georgia doing the preaching. Attendance was good, the lessons outstanding, and four obeyed the Gospel on the last day of the meeting. Prior to the meeting there was one restoration. A visitation program has been started by the young people's class and much good is anticipated from this.

Lancaster

RICHARD HARP, Reporting: The work at Lancaster is looking better than it ever has. We are having visitors almost every Sunday from the denominational churches many of which are returning regularly to study and worship with us. Seven cottage meetings are now in progress with much interest and enthusiasm being shown by everyone participating. Our attendance is averaging 50 each Sunday, and since Sept. the contribution has grown from $65 to $100. We are anticipating our best year in 1965.

Seneca

ESTEN MACON, Reporting: I began work here on July 12, and David Howell preached in our meeting on July 26-August 2nd. Four were baptized and one restored. At the same time we conducted our first Vacation Bible School with an average attendance of 34. During August we had an increase in attendance and contribution.

GENERAL NEWS

To brethren in the Carolinas: "Help is needed in North Ireland where sixteen Christians are gathering, and most of them are unemployed. They are now meeting in a building that is cold and damp, and they need $3,000 for a new building. Will each member of the body of Christ in the Carolinas donate $1.00 to this worthy cause by the end of the year?"

Send all contributions to: C. H. St. John, 136 Coleraine Rd., Portstewart Co. Derry, North Ireland.

It's time to order next quarter's Bible class literature. A wide selection of Bibles available, also. There is no better gift. See ad on page 8.

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CURRENT ISSUE

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The Church Fathers and the Campbellites
Political Extermism and Political Moralizing
The Heart of Darkness; A Study of the Limitations of Man
Is the Church Wanted
Let's Take Time Out
The Grammar of Faith
The Time is Come for Judgment

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The Church and Civil Rights
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For a limited time Dr. J. W. Roberts COMMENTRARY OF THE EPISTLE OF JAMES (value 3.50) will be given FREE for each new subscription or renewal. Brother Roberts, ACC Greek Professor and Editor of the Restoration Quarterly has produced what has been acclaimed as the first scholarly commentary in the brotherhood since J. W. McGarvey, Check or Money Order for subscription price ($4.00) MUST accompany order. Mail at once to KERYGMA, P. O. Box 1001 C, Houston, Texas.

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